

which will ultimately also benefit China; and Lord Elgin may be congratulated on the sense and discretion he has shown since he was sent to supersede the violent bunglers, whose proceedings in China two years since have evidently led to more good than they ever designed or could understand.

THE PRUSSIAN REGENCY.

THE question of the Prussian Regency is one of the most important in Europe just now. That it must soon be definitely settled is clear; and, indeed, we had last week reason to believe that an act establishing the Prince of Prussia as regent was actually signed. This is now contradicted. The "Presse" says:—

"Statements of a contrary character have of late appeared in the Berlin journals in reference to the question of the Regency. That difference arises from the well-known antagonism which exists relative to the governmental question between two members of the Cabinet, Baron de Manteuffel, President of the Council, and M. de Westphalen, Minister of the Interior. There exists at Berlin a central office, which furnishes information to all the semi-official journals. M. de Manteuffel, on his side, sends them information which they hasten to publish; and his colleague furnishes other news, which is also placed before the public. It thus happens that one article frequently contradicts another according to the source from which it issues."

But although nothing was irrevocably settled up to the 23rd inst., one important point appeared to be decided, namely, that the delegation of the royal authority, in virtue of which the Prince has governed since October, 1857, shall not be renewed. It was found that the form of government, if prolonged indefinitely, would produce grave inconveniences, because, as the Prince was only agent of the King, and did not exercise a personal and direct authority, the sovereign power, as it were, was suspended, and the want of it was injurious to a good direction of affairs in Prussia, which already suffers therefrom, and does not maintain her rank among the great Powers of Europe. The system of delegation being set aside, several others were proposed. Some councillors recommended the abdication of the King in favour of the Prince of Prussia. But that course might carry an injustice with it. The King, it is true, is afflicted with a grave malady which does not allow him to govern, and this malady thus far has resisted all medical treatment, but it is not proved that it is incurable. The King, besides, has formally pronounced against abdication, and that idea has been abandoned.

The Prince of Prussia—whose name is Frederick-William-Louis—was born on March 22, 1797. He is the son of Frederick-William III., and consequently is brother to the King. Recently he was military governor of Rhenish Prussia, and the King's lieutenant in Pomerania. The Prince is generally regarded as more a soldier than a politician, and has always observed a scrupulous abstinence from all uninvited interference in affairs of government. His principles, so far as they are known, appear to be rather absolutist, but well tempered; and no one doubts that under his hands the Prussian Government would take firmer and higher ground in European politics than has lately characterised it.

It is now said that the Prussian Chambers will meet on the 17th of October, to settle and to ratify this important affair. We hear that the Prince of Prussia has joined the Emperor of Russia at Warsaw.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

THE Emperor was to return from Biarritz to St. Cloud on the 28th ult.

Prince Napoleon left Paris for Warsaw on Sunday, to be present at the grand review which the Emperor of Russia is to hold there. Some continental journals allege that the Prince bears an invitation of the Czar to Paris; and every one knows the anxiety of Napoleon to see foreign sovereigns at his court.

Admiral Rigault de Genouilly has been appointed to the command of the French expedition against Cochinchina. The object of the expedition, as our readers are aware, is retaliation for the ill-treatment of Christians and contemptuous conduct towards French agents.

SPAIN.

THE policy of the O'Donnell Administration in Spain is officially announced in the "Gazette," in a lengthy circular from the Minister of the Interior to the governors of provinces. A very liberal and well-sounding policy is promised.

The elections are to take place on the 31st inst.

The Queen has returned to her capital.

The expedition against Mexico, designed to enforce indemnity from that Republic for those Spanish subjects who suffered losses in life and property from a mob, is on the eve of starting from Cadiz. Its first destination is said to be Cuba. It seems that the forces collected at Cadiz under the pretext of an expedition against the Riff pirates are likewise to be employed in the Mexican expedition. The Riff pirates seem to have suddenly got a lease of security until spring, when France and Spain may unitedly deal with them.

RUSSIA.

LETTERS from Poland continue to describe the interior of Russia as in a very troubled condition—the nobles by no means displaying readiness to carry out the Emperor's project of the emancipation of the serfs. A large caravan of Russo-Greek missionaries started a month ago under the Archimandrite Goori for Peking. Russia will be first in the missionary as in the diplomatic field.

The Grand Duke Constantine, we hear, is about to make an excursion in the Mediterranean, in command of a portion of the Russian fleet.

General Mouraviev is to be *chargé d'affaires* at Peking.

ITALY.

A LETTER from Naples, dated September 22nd, gives a despatch from the King's Minister to Prince Petrulla, Neapolitan Minister at Vienna, in reply to inquiries from Count Buol relative to "pretended secret negotiations with the Courts of St. James's and the Tuilleries."

"The King, our august master, has never derogated from his duty for anybody or anything, in any circumstances. Constrained, contrary to his will, by force and violence, to submit to acts against which reason, justice, and law protest, he may have been; but these acts will never have the sanction of his conscience, and his Majesty will always consider them as an outrage to his sacred person, against which he has no means of re-acting. The heart of his Majesty knows not forgetfulness."

"His Majesty was profoundly wounded when France and England, without reason, contrary to international law, and for causes which were in reality only pretexts, withdrew their Ministers from his Court. Having been thus offended, and the offence not having been mitigated by the subsequent conduct of the two Powers, his Sicilian Majesty would consider himself humiliated in his own eyes, in the eyes of his subjects, and of Europe, if he took any steps to bring about a reconciliation. When the representatives of the two Courts resided here, all the movements of the Government were watched, scanned, and measured, and each independent act of its sovereignty was subjected to an investigation as annoying as it was wounding. Since the Government has been freed from this interference and unjustifiable control, its movements have been more free, more rapid, and the happy subjects of his Majesty have reaped the benefit of the change."

"This does not imply, however, that a reconciliation with the two European Powers would not be very agreeable to us; but as it was not the King who caused this rupture, so it will not be by the King that the first steps towards reconciliation are taken."

The French garrison at Rome is to be reinforced by a detachment of cavalry and a battalion of Chasseurs. This makes that garrison a complete army-division, ready to take the field.

GREECE.

BARON SINA, son of the late eminent Greek banker at Vienna, and the actual accredited Minister to the different German Governments, has been refused an audience with the King of Bavaria at Munich, where he lately arrived, to arrange the difficulty about the succession

to the Greek throne. He has consequently left Munich, not only without discharging his mission, but under circumstances which almost involve a rupture of diplomatic relations between the two Governments. It is credibly reported that his Majesty has been recommended by his royal brethren to divorce Queen Amelia, for the chance of having heirs by another marriage.

TURKEY AND THE EAST.

THE salaries of all public officials in the Turkish empire are reduced. A letter from the island of Candia, dated the 15th ultimo, describes the country to be in a very disturbed state. "The new Governor has not been able to carry out the instructions he received at Constantinople. He endeavoured to arrest some of the chiefs in the late disturbances, but his agents were successfully resisted. Armed Turks have even dared to traverse the capital of the island, vociferating 'Death to the Christians!' Some of them were arrested, but were immediately released, so great is Mussulman influence."

The Montenegro conflict is considered to be over. The French men-of-war were about to leave the Adriatic at the latest advices.

A conspiracy in Persia against the Prime Minister has failed. The leaders of the conspiracy have been beheaded.

AMERICA.

THE captain of the *Echo*, the captured slave, has been taken for trial to Boston; which means that he will certainly be convicted.

According to the Washington correspondent of the "New York Herald," "the United States Government was so pleased with the courtesy of the Russian minister in China to Mr. Reid (the American minister) that it contemplated officially thanking the Russian Government."

The expedition against Paraguay, so long impending, was at last on the point of starting. There are various small wrongs to avenge.

All was quiet at the New York Quarantine station. The 8th regiment of New York was encamped at the scene of the late riot, and it is said that the utmost good feeling existed between the military and the "rebels."

At the Salt Lake the Indians were troublesome, and the murder of several Mormons is reported.

Yellow fever was still raging at New Orleans. Ninety-eight deaths had occurred in thirty hours, up to noon of the 14th ult.

An attempt made by the Government of Costa Rica to seize on Punta Arenas, and completely oust the King of Mosquito, had produced a good deal of agitation in the different States. It was thought that the question as to the territorial right of his Majesty would be renewed.

GOVERNMENT OF THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

THE "Independence Belge" publishes a document said to be the text of the Convention for the organisation of these provinces, agreed to by the members of the Paris Conference.

This document sets forth that the principalities of Moldavia and Wallachia, now united, remain under the sovereignty of the Sultan; but they are to administer their own affairs without the interference of the Porte beyond that stipulated by the guaranteeing Powers. There is to be one Hospodar in each principality, who will rule after our constitutional fashion—through an elective assembly and a central commission common to the two principalities. A magistracy, with a High Court of Justice, is to be appointed. The principalities are to pay tribute to the Porte. The assembly is to elect the Hospodar, whose father must be a native Wallachian or Moldavian. The assembly to be elected for seven years. The central commission is to be composed of sixteen members—eight Wallachian and eight Moldavian. The regular militia of both provinces are to undergo an uniform organisation, so that they may be united and form one army. Moldavians and Wallachians are to be equal before the law as to taxes, and equally admissible to public employment in either province. No one is to be detained, arrested, or pursued, except according to law. All class privileges, exemptions, and monopolies to be abolished; and a revision of the law which regulates the relations of the proprietors of the soil with the cultivators is to be proceeded with, with the view of ameliorating the condition of the peasants.

RISTORI IN A NEW CHARACTER.—Ristori has been playing the part of a "political incendiary," as well as an actress, in the theatre of St. Samuel, at Venice. She appeared in the character of Judith, and had to utter a sentence which the Italian audience applied to their Austrian oppressors. There was, we are told, "a perfect storm of applause" when, in her fervent manner, she exclaimed, "Name my name to your children, and tell them that that war is sacred which is waged by a nation against a people that invades the country given unto it by the Almighty." The people present demanded an encore, and, in the absence of the Commissary of Police, the actress repeated the passage. "Judith" will never again be put upon the boards of a Venetian theatre while the Austrians hold that city.

NEW MAZZINIAN PROCLAMATION.—M. Mazzini has circulated a new proclamation in the French and Italian languages. The object of it is the complete organisation of the revolutionary party, and the cry as before is, "To arms!" Action, action, united, European, incessant, logical, bold, and universal action, is the burden of this epistle, and the flag it suggests is to have the words, "God, People, Justice, Truth, Virtue." M. Mazzini regrets that the people did not seize the opportunity of the Crimean war for action, and he laments that six years have been allowed to pass without any real change.

RIFLED CANNON.—A correspondent of the "Daily News" writes:—"In addition to the fact stated on the authority of the Prince de Joinville, that the rifled steel cannon is a 'regulation weapon' of the French navy, I beg to state, upon the authority of the 'Continental Review,' that the Emperor Napoleon III. has ordered ninety batteries of six guns each of this formidable weapon for field service. Mr. Armstrong, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, in 1854, submitted his steel rifled cannon to the Duke of Newcastle, and his field-piece has been repeatedly tried at Shoeburyness. The gun is only of 2-inch bore, and the projectile, described as a pointed cylinder, weighs only 5lb., and is fired with a charge of ten ounces; yet, with an elevation of eleven degrees, its range was 3,000 yards; and at 4.26 degrees it hit a mark at 1,500 yards distance. It is quite possible that a 68-pound shot may attain an extreme range of from 7,000 to 8,000 yards. In short, there can be no doubt but that rifled steel cannon are as far superior to ordinary artillery as the Enfield rifle is to 'Brown Bess.' The tremendous power of rifled steel cannon must prove destructive to any opposing force not similarly armed."

THE PRINCE IMPERIAL.—While the Emperor and Empress of the French were at Biarritz they embarked on board the Pelican, and landed at Fontarabia, in Spain. The garrison of Irun immediately got under arms and hastened in double quick time to the former place, where the Emperor reviewed them, and put them through several manoeuvres. Their Majesties, after a stay of some hours, returned to the French territory. Their Majesties, seven little children, dressed as sailors, proceeded to the Villa Eugénie, with M. Adema, the mayor, to offer a small ship to the Prince Imperial on the part of the children of the town. Each of the little ones forming the deputation received a present in return. "A considerable crowd assembled on the occasion, and great interest was excited at seeing the Prince playing with the other children, and apparently enjoying himself heartily."

A STORY OF A DIAMOND.—A diamond, said to be of great value, got into the possession of a Portuguese, who had taken it to a watering-place in Germany. Afterwards a statement was made that some of the best lapidaries of Vienna and Paris had declared it to be merely a topaz, and of no great value. The possessor, it appears, not considering himself defeated, determined to appeal to the decision of the Venetian jewellers, who are considered very superior judges. A letter from Venice thus relates the somewhat melancholy end of this affair:—"The holder of the disputed jewel arrived at Venice, attended by several persons who had made him advances of money. He there submitted the stone in question to the examination of several jewellers, and amongst them to Righetti, of the Rialto. On his applying the usual tests and endeavouring to scratch it, it split almost in two. This result was overwhelming, as it was but too clear that the pretended diamond had fallen altogether from its assumed rank. The Venetians unanimously declared it to be not even a Brazilian topaz, but only one found in Saxony. The unfortunate proprietor was so much affected by the intelligence that he became deranged in his mind, and two days after was found in one of the lagoons, when life was almost extinct. He was saved from his suicide, and transported to an hospital, but long continued speechless. The individual most interested in his success, after himself, had an attack of paralysis, and on his recovery commenced legal proceedings against the unfortunate possessor of the stone, who is looked upon as the victim of his own delusions."

THE INDIAN REVOLT.

THE following message was received at the India House on Tuesday:—

"GUDE."

"On the 26th of August Sir Hope Grant sent a force across the Goomtee at Sultanpore, and occupied three villages in his front."

"Benares Division.—Captain M'Mullen, with his Sikhs, fell in with rebels at a village near Reateen Ghazee, Poken district, on the 23rd of August, and drove them out, killing and wounding 60."

"Allahabad Division.—Captain Dennehy, with a detachment of regulars and a party of military police, came up with Wanjab Singh of Rewa, at Bearoh, on the 28th of August, and killed about 200 of his men."

"CENTRAL INDIA."

"The Gwalior rebels, after their defeat on the 14th of August, fled in a south-easterly direction, giving out that it was their intention to enter the Bombay Presidency *via* Mundisore. However, on finding this line of retreat was menaced by the force from Neemuch under Colonel Franks, they turned north towards Bheelwarra. On the 25th of August reached Jalza Patten, which they surrounded after some days' fighting with the Rana's troops. They obtained possession of the town, which they have plundered. The Rana fled, and is now in Colonel Lockhart's camp at Soonsneen. Soonsneen is fifty-five miles north of Uojein."

"A column under Colonel Hope left Indore on the 3rd inst., to support the one which had been previously despatched under the command of Colonel Lockhart, her Majesty's 92nd Highlanders."

"The rebels are in full possession of Patten, repairing defences and throwing up breastworks on the roads approaching."

"Adil Mahomet has moved from Jerouge, and taken possession of Poorassa; the movement threatens Bhalsal, and towards Goojerat."

"A small force from Ahmedabad attacked and dispersed a body of Munkraes and Bheels at Mundelti on the 22nd of August. The rest of the Bombay Presidency is quiet."

"Major Hamilton writes from Moortas (?) that at noon on the 31st ult., the 69th and 62nd Native Infantry and the Native Artillery, all disarmed, broke out, and tried to seize the guns and arms of the Fusiliers. They were repulsed, great numbers slain, and the rest driven from the cantonment towards the river. Our loss was four men of the Royal Artillery, and, we regret to say, Captain Mules, of the Fusiliers. Major Hamilton heard of the intended outbreak in time to warn the military authorities. He had, with the police battalion, already arrested ninety of the fugitives."

According to another telegraphic message:—

"The fugitive rebels from Gwalior, after being defeated on the 14th of August by General Roberts, are retreating towards Chumbul. They left some seven hundred killed on the field. Our loss was very trifling."

"The fort of Pooree, after thirty hours' shelling, surrendered to General Napier on the 24th of August."

"A brilliant victory was lately gained by five hundred and fifty of the police over about four thousand rebels."

"Three of the Bengal Sepoy Regiments have been re-armed."

"The Punjab is tranquil, as are also the Presidencies of Bombay and Madras."

THE BOMBARDMENT OF JEDDAH.—Some further particulars have been published respecting the bombardment of Jeddah. It is said that the bombardment would have been more severe but that there was a scant supply of ammunition on board the Cyclops. The Cyclops could not get near the town, but the ball and shell practice on board, during the bombardment, was exceedingly good. A shell dropped in amongst about 500 menacing Arabs on the beach, and did great execution amongst them. The culprits condemned to be executed in the presence of the English for the massacre were brought out on a reef between the Cyclops and the town. Their sentence was to be beheaded. The first who suffered death admitted that he was a ringleader in the massacre. All of them had their arms pinned, and there was an opinion that a few were innocent of the crimes for which they suffered. The decapitation of the first was effected very skillfully. The second was a negro, a tall and powerful fellow. He made an energetic speech before he laid his head on the block. The executioner first wounded him in the neck. The culprit then made a fearful struggle, and got his arm loose, and, in defending his neck, he had his arm chopped off. It was necessary to shoot him. The executioner cut off the dead man's finger, to get at a silver ring on it.

PROGRESS OF PHILOSOPHY IN AMERICA.—"A convention of philosophers of both sexes met at Utica, on Friday, September 15, to consult upon matters that are ordinarily regarded as somewhat of a private and domestic character, such as maternity and its consequences, immediate and remote. Several gatherings of the same sort have been held within the past few weeks at Rutland, Vt., and at Berlin Heights."—"New York Herald."

GREAT FIRE IN ST. DOMINGO.—St. Domingo journals state that, on the 15th ult., a fire broke out in the town of Jacmel, near Port-au-Prince, and that it raged with such violence that it could not be extinguished until it had destroyed twenty houses and the Custom-house. These houses formed the finest quarter of the town. The damage done is estimated at 3,840,000 dollars. It is not stated how the fire originated.

PRINCE GHICA KILLED.—A sad event took place, a few days since, in the Champs Elysées. The Wallachian Prince Gregoire Ghika was returning from the Barrière de l'Etoile in an open carriage, when at the Rond-Point the horses took fright, and dashed off towards the Avenue Montaigne. The Prince imprudently jumped out, fell on the pavement head foremost, and was taken up senseless. Being removed to his residence, he expired the same evening, without having uttered a word. The coachman, who was thrown off his seat, received some injury, but nothing likely to prove dangerous. Prince Gregoire Ghika was named Hospodar of Moldavia in 1849, in the room of Prince Stourdza, who had abdicated in consequence of the events of 1848. He was afterwards forced to fly on the invasion of the Principalities by the Russian troops, and went to Vienna.

LETTERS FROM STOCKHOLM state that the cholera is raging there. On the 18th ult. there were 74 new cases, and 31 deaths. Up to that date there had been altogether 511 cases, and 217 deaths.

ON THE 29TH OF AUGUST MR. S. GARDNER, her Britannic Majesty's consul at Jassy, in Moldavia, died. During his long residence in Moldavia, Mr. Gardner had endeared himself to all classes. His funeral was a national grief. The public departments and tribunals throughout the country were closed.

ENGLISH SPOKEN.—A correspondent of the "Athenaeum" gives some curious extracts from "The New Guide of the Conversation in Portuguese and English," by J. da Fouscua and P. Carolino. The English of this volume is wonderful, although the authors seem to have taken some pains with it. "We did put a great variety new expressions to English and Portuguese idioms: without to attach ourselves (as make some others) almost at a literal translation." Then M. da Fouscua proceeds to business; and (for instance) thus raves about house-keeping: "I don't know what I won't with their servants. Anciently I had some servants who were divine my thought. All things were clearly hold one may look on the furniture now as you see. I tell the same, it is not more some good servant. Any one take care to sweep neither to make fire at what I may be up." He goes out hunting and yells, "Look a hare who run! do let him to pursue for the hounds! it goes one's self in the ploughed land. Here that it rouse. Let aim at it! let make fire him! Me! I have failed it: my gun have miss fire." "It delays me to eat some wal nutskernels; take care not leave to pass the season." "Be tranquil, I shall throw you any nuts during the shell is green yet." "The artichoks grow its." "I have a particular care of its, because I know you like the bottoms." He entwines his conversation with anecdotes, as thus:—"Two friends who from long they not were seen meet one's selves for hazard. 'How do is thou?' told one of the two. 'No very well,' told the other; 'and I am married from that I saw thee.' 'Good news.' 'Not quit, because I had married with a bad woman.' 'So much worse.' 'Not so much deal worse; because her dower was from two thousand lewis.' 'Well that comfort.' 'Not absolutely: why I had employed this sum for to buy some muttons, which are all dead of the rot.' 'That is indeed very sorry.' 'Not so sorry, because the selling of hers hide have bring me above the price of the muttons.' 'So you are then indemnified?' 'Not quit, because my house where I was deposited my money, finish to be consumed of the flames.' 'Oh, here is a great misfortune.' 'Not so great nor I either, because my wife and my house are burned together.' The next story is hard to understand:—"A man one's was presented at a magistrate which had a considerable library. 'What you make?' beg him the magistrate. 'I do some books,' he was answered. 'But any of your books I did not see its.' 'I believe it so,' was answered the father: 'I make nothing for Paris. From of my books is imprinted, I send it edition for America; I don't compose what for the colonies.'"—Is not this English made easy for the Portuguese student?

THE TREATY WITH CHINA.

The following is a summary, from authentic sources, of the Treaty between her Majesty and the Emperor of China, as signed at Tien-tsin, June 26, 1858:—

"The appointment of ambassadors, or other diplomatic agents, on the part of either country at the courts of Peking and St. James's, is provided for. Arrangements are made for the travelling and the transmission of the correspondence of the minister. The Emperor of China consents to nominate one of the Secretaries of State, or some high officer, to transact business with the British Minister, either personally or in writing, on a footing of perfect equality. The same privileges are to be granted to the Chinese Minister in London. Consuls may be appointed in China, and may reside in any of the open ports. The Christian religion, as professed by Protestants or Roman Catholics, to be tolerated, and its professors protected. British subjects to travel for pleasure or trade into all parts of the interior, with passports from the consuls, countersigned by the local authorities; no passes to be given to Nankin, or cities in the hands of the rebels.

"British merchant-ships are to be allowed to trade up the great river Yang-tze; but in the present disturbed state of the Upper and Lower Valley, no port is to be opened for trade, with the exception of Chin-Kiang, which is to be opened in a year from the signature of the treaty. When peace is restored, British vessels are to be admitted to trade at such ports, as far as Hankow, not exceeding three in number, as the British Minister, after consulting with the Chinese Secretary of State, shall determine. In addition to the present ports, New Chawing, Tang-Chow, Tai-Wan (Formosa), Chow-Chow (Sawto), and Kiung-Chow (Hainan), are to be opened, and the right of residence and holding landed property is conceded. British subjects are to make agreements for landed property at the rates prevalent among the people.

"All questions in regard to rights of property or person between British subjects to be subject to the jurisdiction of the British authorities.

"Chinese subjects guilty of any criminal act towards British subjects to be arrested and punished by the Chinese authorities according to the law of China; British subjects committing any crime in China to be tried and punished by the consul or other public functionary according to the laws of Great Britain. Wrecked or stranded vessels, or vessels under stress of weather, are to be afforded relief and security in any Chinese port, and the crews are to be furnished by the Chinese, if necessary, with the means of conveyance to the nearest consular station. Chinese criminals taking refuge in Hong-Kong, or on board of British ships, shall, upon the requisition of the Chinese authorities, be given up; the same also if taking refuge in the houses, or on board the vessels of British subjects at the open ports. The Chinese authorities to do their utmost to arrest Chinese subjects failing to discharge their debts to British subjects, or fraudulently absconding, and to enforce recovery of the debts. The British authorities to do likewise as regards British subjects indebted to Chinese. Debts incurred by Chinese at Hong-Kong must be recovered in courts of justice on the spot. If the debtor should abscond, and should possess real or personal property in the Chinese territory, the Chinese authorities, in concert with the British consul, are to see justice done between the parties.

"British subjects shall pay on all merchandise exported the duties prescribed by the tariff, but in no case shall they pay other or higher duties than the subjects of other foreign nations pay. Import duties to be considered payable on the landing of the goods, and duties of export on the shipment of the same.

"Either contracting party may demand a revision of the tariff, and of the commercial articles of the treaty at the end of ten years; but six months' notice must be given, or the tariff is to remain in force for ten years more, and so at the end of each successive ten years. The amount of tonnage dues is regulated. British merchant vessels of more than 150 tons burden to pay at the rate of four mace per ton; if of 100 tons and under, at the rate of one mace per ton. Vessels engaged in the coasting trade, or clearing for Hong-Kong from any of the open ports, shall be entitled to a special certificate exempting them from all further payment of tonnage dues in any open port of China for a period of four months from the date of her port clearance. No tonnage dues to be paid on passenger boats, or boats conveying baggage, letters, articles of provision, or other articles not subject to duty. All cargo boats, however, conveying merchandise subject to duty, shall pay tonnage dues once in six months, at the rate of four mace per register ton. The consuls and superintendents of customs to consult together respecting the erection of buoys and light ships, as occasion may demand. The superintendent of customs shall deputize one or more customs officers to guard a British merchant-ship on arriving off one of the open ports. They shall stay either in a boat of their own or on board ship; their food and expenses shall be supplied from the custom-house, and they shall be entitled to no fees from the master or consignee. Ships' papers, bills of lading, &c., to be lodged in the hands of the consul twenty-four hours after arrival, and full particulars of the vessel to be reported to the superintendent of customs within a further period of twenty-four hours. If the master shall begin to discharge any goods without the permit from the superintendent of customs, he shall be fined five hundred taels, and the goods discharged shall be confiscated wholly. British merchants must apply to the superintendent of customs for a special permit to land or ship cargo. Cargo landed or shipped without such permit will be liable to confiscation. No transshipment from one vessel to another can be made without special permission, under pain of confiscation of the goods trans-shipped.

"Duties shall be charged upon the nett weight of each article. Upon all damaged goods a fair reduction of duty shall be allowed. (Other articles lay down very precise rules about import and export.)

"British merchant vessels not to resort to other than the ports declared open; nor unlawfully to enter ports, or to carry on clandestine trade along the coasts. Vessels violating this provision to be with their cargoes, subject to confiscation by the Chinese Government. If a British merchant vessel be concerned in smuggling, the goods to be subject to confiscation by the Chinese authorities, and the ship may be prohibited from trading further.

"All official communications addressed by British diplomatic or consular agents to the Chinese authorities are, henceforth, to be written in English. For the present, they will be accompanied by a Chinese version, but it is understood that in case of there being any difference of meaning between the English and Chinese text, the English Government will hold the sense expressed in the English text to be the correct sense. The provision is to apply to the present Treaty, the Chinese text of which has been carefully corrected by the English original. The character 'I' (barbarian) not to be applied to the British Government or to British subjects in any Chinese official document issued by the Chinese authorities. British ships of war coming for no hostile purpose, or being engaged in the pursuit of pirates, to be at liberty to visit all the Chinese ports, and to receive every facility for procuring necessities, or, if required, for making repairs. The commanders of such ships to hold intercourse with the Chinese authorities on terms of equality and courtesy. The contracting parties agree to concert measures for the suppression of piracy.

"All advantages secured to the British Government by previous treaties are confirmed; and the British Government shall participate in any advantages which may be granted by the Emperor of China to any other nation.

"Ratifications to be exchanged within a year after the day of signature.

"A separate article provides that a sum of two millions of taels, on account of the losses sustained by British subjects, through the misconduct of the Chinese authorities at Canton; and a further sum of two millions of taels, on account of the expenses of the war, shall be paid to the British representative in China by the authorities of the Kwang-Tung province. The arrangements for effecting these payments to be determined by the British representative, in concert with the Chinese authorities at Kwang-Tung. The British forces are not to be withdrawn from Canton until the above amounts are discharged in full."

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"A separate article provides that a sum of two millions of taels, on account of the losses sustained by British subjects, through the misconduct of the Chinese authorities at Canton; and a further sum of two millions of taels, on account of the expenses of the war, shall be paid to the British representative in China by the authorities of the Kwang-Tung province. The arrangements for effecting these payments to be determined by the British representative, in concert with the Chinese authorities at Kwang-Tung. The British forces are not to be withdrawn from Canton until the above amounts are discharged in full."

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IRELAND.

AGRICULTURAL RETURNS.—Irish statistics show that from 1855 to 1858 there has been a great general increase in the value of stock:—In horses, of £445,140; in cattle, of £631,761; in pigs, of £281,209; but there is a decrease in value in sheep of £126,013. The total increase in value is £1,222,697. Compared with 1857, the year 1858 shows a decrease in cereal crops (wheat, oats, barley, &c.) and in beans and peas of 38,427 acres; in green crops (potatoes, turnips, mangold-wurzel and beetroot, cabbage, carrots, parsnips, vetches, rape, &c.) there was an increase of 13,282. The total increase in the extent of land under crops was 23,375 acres. The returns generally leave no doubt that the country is rising in prosperity.

SMITH O'BRIEN'S VIEW OF "IRISH POLICY."—Mr. Smith O'Brien has communicated to a meeting held in Cork county, the views he entertains of the policy which should be adopted by the people of Ireland and their representatives. "This policy involves the creation of a national party which shall hold itself entirely independent of the factions which alternately rule the Government of England; and one of the first objects to the furtherance of which it ought to apply itself is the attainment of a satisfactory measure for the protection of the tenantry of Ireland. The only remark which I now desire to add to the opinion contained in that address is, that it behoves the independent Irish Members to prove that they are as little disposed to connect themselves with a Conservative Government as to form an alliance with the Whigs. For my own part, I have ceased to expect beneficial legislation for Ireland from any English party or Government, but I feel convinced that the best chance of obtaining good measures is to be found by concentrating in an independent national party the whole influence of the Irish nation. It remains to be seen whether there exists in this country public spirit sufficient to give effect to such a policy. I candidly confess that I can observe in the present state of the public mind but scanty indications of a national spirit."

THE FLOODS IN KERRY.—The "Tralee Chronicle" contains some distressing accounts relating to the recent flood in Kerry:—"In the valley of Clydagh, some four miles in extent, the surface of the land has in several places been torn away, while the destruction of houses, hay, corn, and other agricultural stock has been frightful. Some of the tenantry who the day before found their barns insufficient to stock the tending crops, were left without house, corn, potatoes, or other food, while acres upon acres of their holdings must remain unprofitable to them for years to come. On Sir Thomas Herbert's property in Glenties—ad, indeed, some of the finest in the country—all the corn has been swept away. The house of a keeper of The O'Donoghue was torn away, with all his furniture, and several trees rooted out of the plantation under his care. The battlements (about sixty feet) of Poulgorm Bridge—the highest bridge in Glenties—were taken clear off; while Coonenavrick Bridge, at the bounds of the county, and all the bridges on the Ballyvourney road have been swept away, and all communication between Cork and Kerry in that direction, cut off. Mr. J. McCarthy of Radanane on the Blackwater (county Cork) lost sixty sheep, and a farmer near Kanturk lost fifty pigs."

OUTRAGE IN GWEEDORE.—The district of Gweedore has again been the scene of an outrageous attack upon the Scotch settlers. A poor Scotch shepherd, named Gunn, was engaged quietly in his own house arranging about the removal of his little effects to another holding he had taken. While so doing a knock was heard at the door, and an Irish reaper (one of a party just from Scotland, it seems), entered, and asked for a light for his pipe. Immediately afterwards a second appeared, demanding and obtaining a drink of water. The two men opening with some remarks abusive of Scotland and Scotchmen, suddenly commenced an attack upon the shepherd, a murderous blow with a heavy stick upon his head being the signal for the appearance of twenty other ruffians, by all of whom he was dreadfully beaten. The poor fellow, profusely bleeding, broke through the would-be murderers, and rushed out pursued by the entire gang, who shouted, "Kill him! kill him right out!" Again he was at their mercy, and again he was savagely assaulted, till at length he was rendered insensible. At this moment a gentleman, who had been out shooting, drove up in a car; upon which (and perhaps at sight of his gun) the cowards made off. The shepherd is thought to be fatally injured.

SCOTLAND.

DESTRUCTION OF FIFTY STACKS OF CORN.—A disastrous fire occurred last week on the farm steading of Long Newton, about seven miles south of Haddington, the whole crop of the tenant, Mr. Patrick Home, being destroyed. The fire was discovered about midday, and is said to have been caused by a piece of burning paper with which a woman, one of the farm labourers, lit her pipe during the dinner hour. The total value of the property destroyed is estimated at from £1,800 to £2,000, and it is only covered by insurance to the extent of £1,000.

BREAKING INTO A PRISON.—On Friday morning last the prison of Edinburgh, situated on the Calton Hill, was broken into by some of its former inmates, for the purpose of plunder. The wall was scaled from the Regent Road, and the door of the governor's office opened by a picklock. They ransacked the place, breaking open a desk that contained about £20 in notes and gold, which they abstracted. The burglary was managed with considerable adroitness, but the city detectives were nevertheless able to make out some traces, and the same evening two persons were apprehended. One of these had only completed his period of imprisonment for housebreaking on the 18th ult., the other had for some time been one of the prison-warders, and had only left his situation a fortnight before.

THE PROVINCES.

A BAD CASE OF ARSON.—Some farm premises, at Warley (near Halifax), have been burnt down, and a man has been arrested on suspicion of having originated the fire. The incendiary— whoever he may prove to be—had fastened the door of a shed, so that the cows could not be got out, and the moanings and plungings of the unfortunate animals were heartrending. One of them was burnt to death, and a horse had its tail and mane cropped, and was stabled by it, it is supposed, the same scoundrel.

DEATH FROM TERROR.—A girl in the service of a farmer, at South Weald, near Brentwood, drowned herself in a pond. The body was not found until the following day, when a boy, named Curtis (a fellow-servant of the suicide's), observing what he supposed to be some linen in the pond, pulled it near to the side, and to his horror saw the face of the poor girl rise above the water. The boy was greatly alarmed of course; indeed his nervous system received so severe a shock, that he soon became very ill, and died.

MELANCHOLY SUICIDE.—Mary Ann Keighley, daughter of an omnibus-driver, had been for eleven months in the service of Mrs. Roscoe, a lodging-house-keeper, at Longsight, near Manchester. She was of a sentimental temperament. Among the lodgers was a Mr. May, to whom she became attached. Her mistress dismissed her because of her hasty temper, and she went to her father's house. Next night, when her parents went to bed, they left her downstairs writing letters; but they had been in bed scarcely half-an-hour when she called out, "Mother, come downstairs; I'm ill." Her mother went to her and found her in bed. She said she had taken poison, and throwing her arms round her mother's neck, clung so tightly to her that it was with difficulty her mother could release herself to call for assistance. Soon after the poor girl died in great agony. After her death some packets of an "Infallible Vermin and Insect Destroyer" were found in her bed; and under her pillow were three letters. The first was addressed to her mother, father, brothers, and sisters; and read thus—"When you read this I shall be dead. Blame no one but Mrs. Roscoe; she is the cause of my doing so. Good-bye, God bless you all. Hurt him not; I forbid it. I loved him to the last; God bless him. It is for his sake I am dying. As soon as you find it out, send for him. God bless you, Mr. May's Mother, give him my likeness, if he will have it. Tell him not to refuse it. Tell Mrs. Roscoe I forgive her; but it is her to blame." The second letter was addressed to Mr. May:—"Dearest Mr. May, You asked me to bless you. I do bless you and forgive you, as I hope to be forgiven for what I am doing now. When this reaches your hand I shall be dead. Do not make yourself unhappy, dearest, at all. Be sure I love you to the last moment of my life. Will you visit my grave sometimes? Please do; and will you look after my mother; and I will bless you for all. I forgive all my enemies, and Mr. Cornes for his harshness to me. So good-bye. May God pour down blessings upon your head, and all your undertakings. See me when I am dead. Bless you, my only love. Blame no one for my death. You might have kissed me when you left." The third letter was to Mr. Bowker, Liverpool, asking forgiveness for all the trouble she had given him; telling him not to weep for her; and saying she could not love him as she loved the one she was dying for.

LLANGOLLEN EISTEDDFFOD.—The Welsh bards held their septennial gathering known as the Eisteddfod, last week in the vale of Llangollen. The occasion was signalled, as usual, by speeches, the recitation of poems, playing the harp, and a curious procession to the Bardic circle. It was led by the band of the Denbigh Rifles, followed by the Druids; women, on horseback in the ancient costume of Wales; Bards, and "Ovates." The presiding bard was the Reverend J. Williams, whose bardic name is Ab Ithel. Prizes were distributed to the poets, the harpers, and ovates; among others, one of £30 and a golden tiara for the best treatise on the theology, discipline, and usages of the ancient bards of Britain. The arch druid, attired in white robes and wearing the druidical symbols, read the adjudication, when the prize was awarded to the Rev. John Williams, one of the greatest scholars and antiquaries the Welsh nation can boast. The announcement was made amid loud cheers, and the rev. gentleman, kneeling, was crowned with the tiara by Miss Owen, of Blaenau, near Dolgelly.

THE ACCIDENT AT SHEFFIELD.—The inquest into the causes of the accident at the Sheffield Music Hall has been concluded, leaving it still doubtful whether the alarm arose from an explosion of gas, or the firing of a pistol. Several persons swear that they saw the pistol, saw fire leap from its muzzle, heard the report, and smell gunpowder. On the other hand, there were not wanting witnesses who say that they detected the presence of gas before any explosion took place, and saw the explosion, the match of a young man who "would have a smoke" setting it on fire. But some gas-fitters who gave evidence declared that there could have been no explosion of gas at all. The verdict expressed the fact that the deceased persons were suffocated, while endeavouring to escape from the Surrey Music Hall during a panic caused by a cry of "Fire!" but whether such panic arose in consequence of the firing of a pistol or explosion of gas, or from whatever other cause, no satisfactory evidence has been adduced to the Jury.

INVASION BY FRENCH FISHERMEN ON THE WEAR.—Newcastle papers complain that the crews of some French luggers lying in the Wear have been in the habit of "going up the river in their boats as far as Hulton, and of catching fish of every description which may happen to be within their trawl. They use regular trawl nets, and a day's fishing, when the tide answers, is a productive affair. During this and the succeeding months of the year, the fish of the trout and salmon kind ascend the fresh waters to deposit their spawn, and these invaders catch them as they leave the salt water for the streams of the Wear. It is the daily practice of several of the ships' crews, and they do it with perfect impunity in open day—although it is the rule, established by treaty, that no foreigner shall fish in the sea on any of the coasts of Great Britain nearer than three miles, or perhaps five."

MILITIA RIOT AT LIVERPOOL.—After the inspection of the 2nd Lancashire Militia at their barracks, near Liverpool, a police inspector was called upon by the military authorities to remove an importunate fellow, who was begging on the representation that he was an old soldier. The man (Morgan) struck the inspector a severe blow on the eye with a stick. Five of the militia now went to Morgan's assistance; and not only rescued him from the custody of the inspector, but attacked the officer with such ferocity, that great fears were entertained for his personal safety. Thanks to the prompt action of the sergeant-major and the sergeant of the guard, who rushed with drawn swords to the rescue of the constable, and to the appearance on the ground of an armed picket of militia, the rioters beat a retreat. They took refuge in a private house in a neighbouring street, whence they were dislodged with great difficulty, and not until they had broken a number of windows, smashed several doors, and assaulted another policeman. Ultimately, they were all captured and placed in Bridewell. Subsequently, the sergeant of the guard was severely beaten by the militiamen. Brought before a magistrate, Morgan was ordered to pay two penalties of £5 each, or to be committed to nine months' imprisonment; the other prisoners were fined £5, or to be committed to jail for three months.

POLITICS IN STAFFORDSHIRE.—At the annual meeting of the Staffordshire Agricultural Association, speeches were delivered by several prominent public men. The Earl of Shrewsbury, while advocating the maintenance of an efficient navy, pooh-poohed the imaginary fears of those members of Parliament who, having witnessed the great display at Cherbourg, were ready to plunge into an extravagant expenditure in the improvement of our national defences. He asserted that the Channel fleet was in a high state of efficiency, and that our means of naval defence might be indefinitely extended if ever the occasion should arise. Mr. Adderley, M.P., in a humorous speech, complained that the Whigs should set up for themselves a fixity of tenure in the cultivation of the Reform "crop," and contended for the right of others to become cultivators of this species of produce if they thought fit.

ACCIDENT AT A COAL PIT.—A serious catastrophe occurred last week at a colliery, belonging to the Earl of Crawford, at Upholland, near Wigan. Two men had descended the shaft, and the cage returned in order that a third might be lowered. When within a few yards of the bottom, the latter was heard to shriek, and before the engine could be reversed, about twenty-one feet upwards from the bottom of the shaft closed in, by which the unfortunate man is supposed to have been killed instantly. Hopes are entertained of saving the two men who had preceded him, it being supposed that sufficient fresh air will reach them through the loose earth, and enable them to breathe until they can be released. Gangs of labourers were immediately set to work, and when we last heard, it was believed that a few hours more would extricate them.

SAD AND STRANGE.—Two young persons, a lad and a lass, have been drowned near Wolverhampton, under remarkable circumstances. Joseph Smith "kept company" with Jane Bowdler. One night the lovers were out late, and Smith says he took the girl home. After she had gone in, he did not go away, because she had expressed her determination to come out again. She did come out and run away. Smith followed, and brought her back. This process was repeated four times. When she last entered the house, she began, says the father, to unlace her boots, and said she would go to bed immediately. She slept in the same room with him and his wife, her mother. After being in bed some minutes, he again called her to come to bed. The kitchen was on the same floor as the bed-room. When she did not reply, he went to the front door, and called her by her name, but received no reply. Smith says she ran off to a pool and jumped in. John Bebee, happening to pass, jumped in to save her, but she clung to him, and in spite of the efforts of both Smith and another man, they were drowned. A coroner's inquest was held. In the case of Bebee they found that he was drowned while attempting to rescue the girl; but in the case of the girl, they requested that a post-mortem examination might be made before returning a verdict.

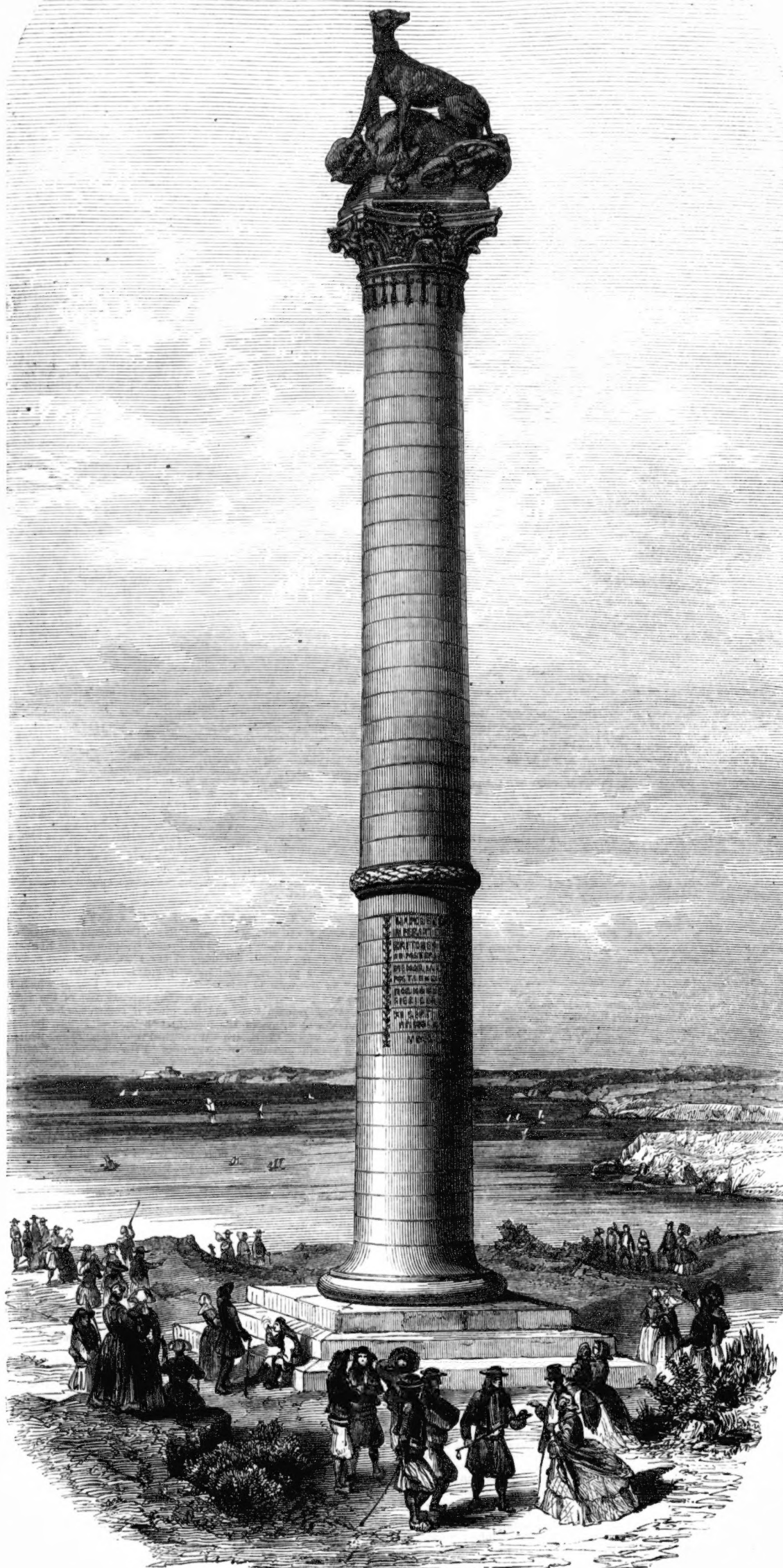
THE BATTLE OF ST. CAST.

Our readers will scan, with some interest, the column recently erected to commemorate a victory gained by French troops over the English in 1758. With the battle itself many of our readers were first made acquainted by a paragraph that recently appeared in the "Illustrated Times" in reference to this column. The time, too, at which this column was inaugurated is as well worthy the attention of the British public as the column itself and the event it commemorates. A correspondent who witnessed the inauguration, says—"Before the smoke from the salutes at Cherbourg had vanished into thin air, and while the English hurrahs and the French cries of 'Vive l'Empereur!' still reverberate between the rocky shores of either coast, our gallant allies have thought fit to treat themselves to a spectacle which, if it mean anything, is an insult and defiance to the English nation. With a mixture of senility and puerility that argues little for their boasted manhood, their first proceeding after the opening of Cherbourg has been to get up a demonstration against the English by celebrating a commemoration of a so-called victory over their present allies; and the modern *natio comada* could not miss the gratification of their *amour-propre*, even at the risk of losing the respect of their contemporaries. To be sure, they had to go some way back into the 'corridors of ages' to find a *bona fide* victory, but by good luck they managed to stumble upon one only 100 years old; and, as it would seem that victories, like port and poetry, improve by age (*ut vina potantur*), we must not be surprised at the marked improvement which has taken place in 'the bottle of smoke just got up by the State butler. The battle of St. Cast, which took place in 1758, was but a poor-bodied third-class affair, scarce worth the notice of the penny-a-liners of the day in either country; but, with the dust and cobwebs of 100 years upon it, comes up a fine old crusted full-bodied 'glorious victory,' and its very name ought to make Englishmen shake in their shoes. As very few of your readers ever heard of it, I venture to give a few details.

"In the 'Battles of the British Army,' it is thus impartially described:—

"After a repulse from St. Malo, Bligh resolved to land his forces in the Bay of St. Lunaire, about two leagues to the westward. The landing was rapidly and beautifully performed under the eye of Howe, but it would be difficult to discover what it was intended the men should do when landed. They were scarcely on shore when an autumnal gale made it impossible for Howe to keep the ships where they were. Perhaps it was not so easy to re-embark the troops, who had finished all the work that could be done on that point when they had burnt some fifteen or twenty sloops and fishing boats. Howe went away with the fleet to the more secure Bay of St. Cast, a few leagues westward, arranging with Bligh that the troops should be marched by land to that bay. The old general, instead of making a forced march of it, loitered on the road, as if in contempt of the superior forces under the Duc d'Anguillon that were looking after him. The French, however, paid the value of the English troops the compliment of not attacking them till two-thirds of them were re-embarked. But they then pounced upon the remainder as they were engaged among the rocks on the sea-shore, or in a hollow way that led down to them. The rear-guard, consisting of the British Grenadiers, and half a regiment of Guards under General Drury, fought for a short time with wonderful bravery, but General Drury was shot, and running into the sea perished there. Sir John Armitage, a soldier of fortune, met with the same fate; many of the gallant young officers of the Guards were picked off by French musketeers, standing on rocks right above their heads, and after a frightful carnage the men broke away from their ranks and were nearly all either slaughtered or made prisoners."

"The total of the British loss we are informed amounted to 812, including killed, wounded, and missing; the French loss is variously



MONUMENT ERECTED AT ST. MALO, IN MEMORY OF THE BATTLE OF ST. CAST.

stated at from 40 to 400. The Duc d'Aiguillon, who led the French troops, took care to station himself in a windmill at a safe distance from the villainous saltpetre, and his conduct gave rise to the well-known *bon mot* of De la Chalottais; who, when the Duke boasted 'qu'il s'était couvert de gloire dans ce combat,' could not refrain from saying, 'Couvert de gloire,—mais non, c'est de farine.'

"The French deity *la Gloire* must not be represented like Truth or Faith *Incorrupta fides, nudaque veritas*; such 'beauty unadorned,' *simples munditiis*, does not suit the present fashion. She must be tastily got up with fiction and romance, and the original form as much disguised as a lady's shape by the present fashion of outworks. Accordingly, our imaginative neighbours first exaggerated the number of the English troops engaged, and then diminished their own in a similar ratio. In the 'Dinan Guide,' published by M. Bazouge, in 1857, we read that the English landed 8,000 men from a fleet of 100 ships, who ravaged the country and committed deplorable excesses till the Duc d'Aiguillon arrived to the assistance of the courageous Ville Audrains, who, with a handful of heroes, was making head against the enemy, and pursued the English legions to the waves with terrible reprisals.

"On the 11th of September (to follow the French account) commenced the deciding combat at nine o'clock a.m. The enemy had still on land their best troops, of which the Royal family formed a part. The firing was brisk on both sides, but our troops, in a great state of excitement, soon came to close quarters and threw themselves on the enemy with the point of the bayonet. Notwithstanding the fire of five of their frigates and three mortar vessels, our men pursued the English to the sea, into which they precipitated themselves to regain their ships. Remember that in this battle we had only three battalions and a few detachments engaged, owing to the situation of the field of battle; these were the regiments—Boulonnais, Brie, and Fontenoi le Comte—which performed prodigies of valour. We reckon that the English have lost about 3,000 men killed and drowned and about 700 prisoners, among whom are several noblemen. We reckon our loss at 400 killed and wounded. This battle took place on the beach of St. Cast, and was over at half-past twelve at noon."

"Of course there must be many trophies of such a sanguinary defeat to be shown to admiring posterity; accordingly, on the first mention of a centenary commemoration of the victory an old lady in the country ruts out from the family rag-bag a splendid relic of the fight in the shape of an English standard captured at St. Cast, and preserved as an heir-loom for 100 years. The said flag might have been the standard of any nation under the sun, so tattered and faded are its remains; but it was forthwith sent to a sempstress in Dinan, 'Madame Richard,' to be repaired and lined, so as to bear being unfurled and waved in the face of perfidious England at the approaching ceremony, and then to be hung up in the Church of St. Cast, so that I might have had to write 'Signa ego Punicis adfixa delubris—vidi,' but that the authorities themselves began to doubt the genuineness of the flag, which consisted only of a cross of light blue silk, the corners being entirely destroyed. So the flag was allowed to droop in obscurity after it had done its duty in stimulating the country people to subscribe their pence towards the promised exhibition."

"A little bit of romance was also necessary to make up the popular tale, so the author of 'La Bretagne Catholique' gives us the following choice *morceau* (page 324):—Speaking of the battle of St. Cast, the last descent of the English on the coast of France, he says:—'Une tradition rapporte qu'au plus fort de la mêlée des Gallois enrôlés dans l'expédition Anglaise jetèrent bas les armes en reconnaissant dans la bouche des Bretons leurs chants nationaux, et embrassèrent leurs ennemis, dans les quels ils retrouvaient des frères.' With all due deference to M. Buron, I beg to doubt the fact, and should prefer it being authenticated by the archives of the Welsh Fusiliers before I take his bare word that any amount of singing would induce the Welsh to throw down their arms and embrace their enemies. I am Welsh, too, but the only thing I ever recognised 'dans la bouche des Bretons,' was a strong flavour of my country's leeks and garlic, which by no means predisposed me to embrace them. With these materials to work upon, the authorities, at the instigation of the 'honourable concitoyen' (M. Odorici Smellfungues), the antiquary, proposed that a monument should be erected on the field of battle at St. Cast on this 11th of September, being the centenary of the glorious victory. The permission of the Government was requested, and granted by decree. Flaming and incendiary advertisements were inserted in all the newspapers of Brittany, demanding subscriptions for the patriotic work of erecting a monument, and all those whose ancestors shared in the glorious battle were invited to cast their mites into the treasury 'as a peace offering for the illustrious dead,' &c. With immense exertions a sum of about £200 was collected, principally in sous and centimes, beggars' mites and patriots' pence, from all who desired to establish a claim to a hundred years' ancestry, and have a kick at England at a cheap rate. This has been going on for the last nine months, notwithstanding the Emperor's professions of cordiality, and the very friendly manner in which the English at Dinan received him: on his passage through Brittany. The plan for a monument was opened to competition, and after much discussion the award was given to a certain firm at Nantes, whose design best expressed the sentiments of *amour-propre* and animosity to England which gave rise to the commemoration."

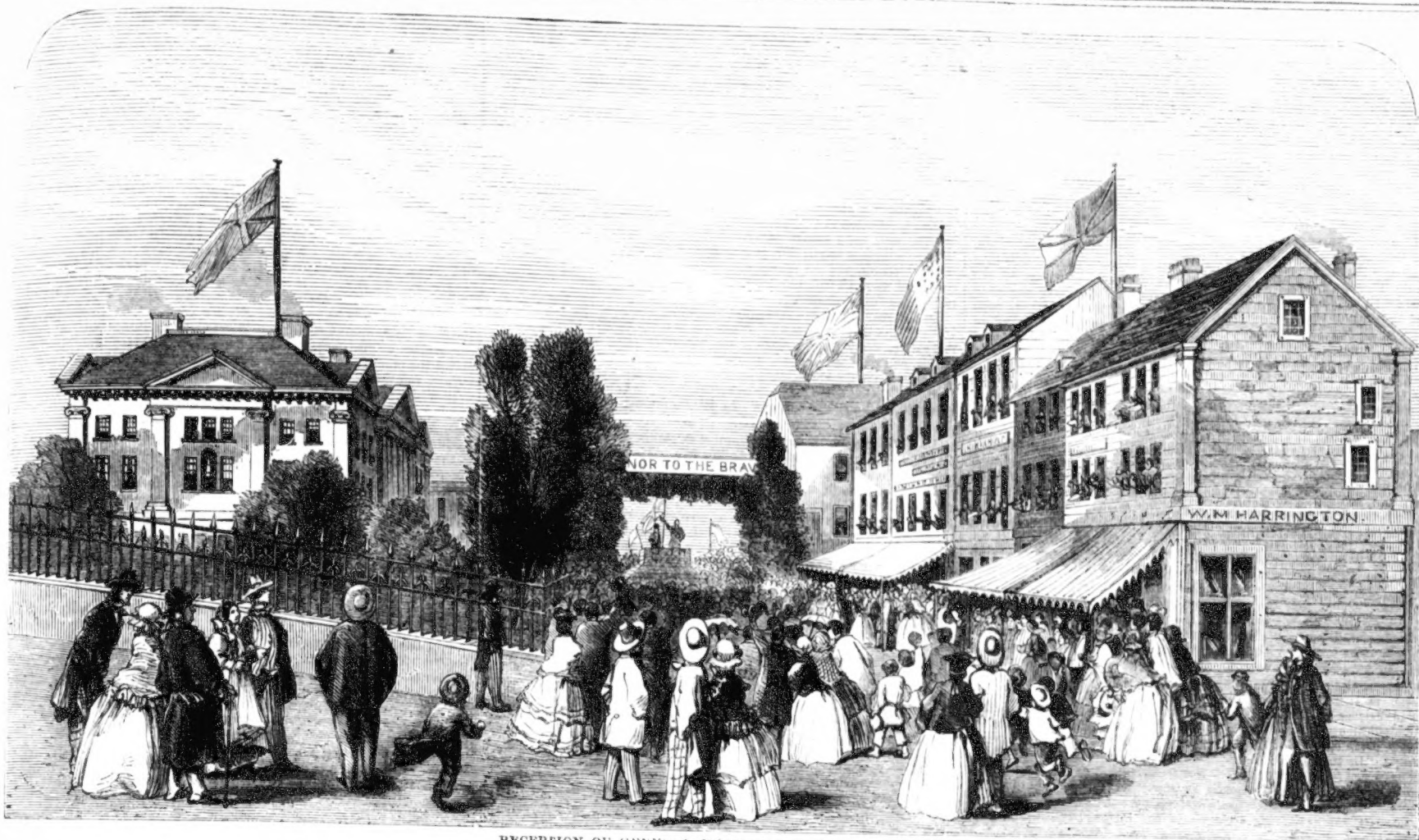
"This choice work of art, which was this day (Sept. 11) inaugurated, is thus composed. A fine granite plinth rises some thirty feet from a pedestal of solid masonry; and on the top of the pillar is placed a cast-iron group weighing nearly three tons. The subject is a grayhound trampling on a prostrate leopard, which the papers take care to inform us represents Brittany vanquishing England! To be sure, the grayhound is rather large and the leopard rather undersized; but what would you? It was necessary to make the combat a little like nature, and under ordinary circumstances a grayhound is scarcely a match for a leopard. The grayhound bears round his neck a collar, on which are engraved the arms of Brittany, and everybody knows that the leopard is the badge of England; at any rate, it was some few centuries gone by, and in Brittany what signify a few centuries more or less? The execution of the group is very spirited. The curl of the grayhound's tail is very dogged, and there is something precious in the cock of his left eye. The leopard's tail, too, droops limp and cowardly, as if it had not a wag in it; but, after all, the artist is a muf of the old style,—for not only is there a manifest incongruity in the relative characters of the animals, but they are too large for the capital, and threaten in the next struggle to fall over upon the luckless spectators who may happen to be 'assisting' at the fight."

"The fête, however, took place with due pomp and perfect unanimity, inasmuch as the glorification was all on one side. The hot September sun looked down into the quiet bay of St. Cast, where sundry fishing-boats and small yachts were lying gaily decked with tricolours, and a fat little steamer brought a load of holiday seekers from St. Malo, and gave *clat* to the proceedings by firing her pudgy carronades at intervals. Flags and streamers waved in all directions, and the rustic population of the neighbouring cantons turned out in Sunday costume, and grouped themselves picturesquely among the trophies of laurel and oak arranged round the column. At eleven o'clock the committee arrived from Dinan, escorted by the clergy and the fire brigade, who always figure together on these occasions; also by brass bands from St. Malo and Dinan, enlivening the scene with choice airs."

"They proceed to the *Cimetière des Anglais*, where the victims of the fight lie together in their long home, and the sun goes behind a cloud while the clergy chant the hymn *des trépassés*, and place laurel wreaths on the graves of the fallen Frenchmen. A mass is celebrated in the open air, and M. l'Abbe Prudhomme pronounces an eloquent funeral oration."

"The sun breaks forth as the sous-préfet of Dinan ascends the tribune and makes a speech to the assembled multitude, which, setting aside a little pardonable egotism, is remarkable for its elegance and temperance. The Mayor of St. Malo then makes a long speech, addressing himself both to the patriotism of his auditors, and, still more, to their Napoleonism, and lugs in the Emperor by the head and shoulders as the final cause of every human good, including the present demonstration."

"M. Frederic de la Noue then gets on the platform, and on a pair of stilts of the most elevated dimensions, and recites a spasmodic poem of



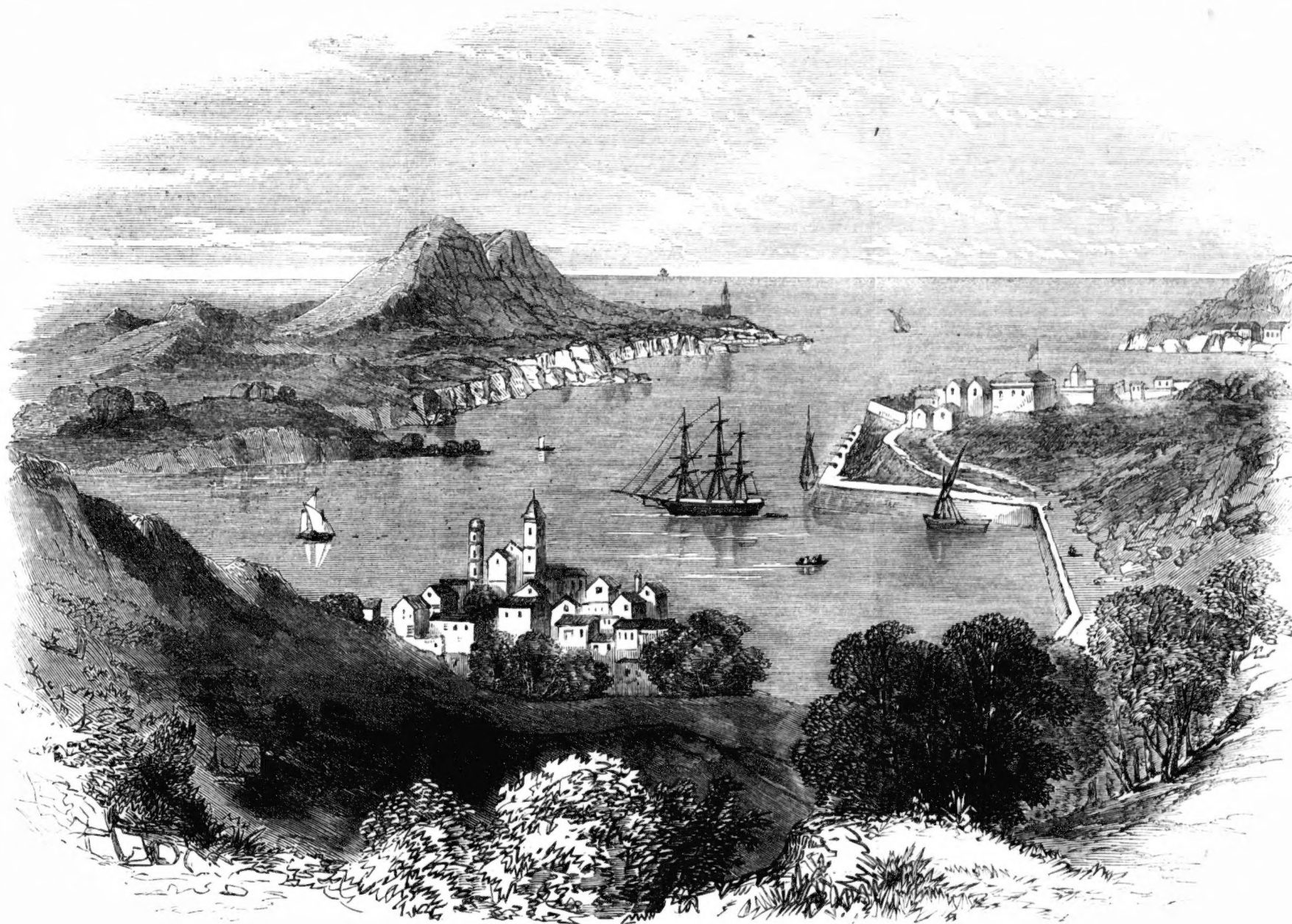
RECEPTION OF GENERAL WILLIAMS AT NOVA SCOTIA.

his own composition, in sixteen stanzas, with the usual Breton ingredients of Druids and giants, granite rocks and 'broomy knowes,' limpid skies and blushing waves, invincible Bretons and perfidious England, Duguesclin and Beaumanoir, and immortal glory! And so the *fête* concludes, and the ponderous grayhound stands with his foot on the leopard's throat, and the sailors practise climbing up greasy poles for legs of mutton and tricolour cockades, in order to wipe off the reproach of Mr. Lindsay, and put themselves on an equality with the English sailor by the next time they meet upon the British Channel."

RECEPTION OF GENERAL WILLIAMS OF KARS, AT HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA.

It is already widely known, that Sir William Fenwick-Williams of Kars is a native of Halifax, Nova Scotia, that loyal appanage of the British Crown, which has also furnished the empire with an Inglis. When Sir William resolved to visit his native place, Halifax determined to welcome him back in a manner not only commensurate with the great honours he has reaped, but also demonstrative of the pride they feel in him as a Nova Scotian.

The *Canada* with the defender of Kars on board, arrived a Halifax on the 24th of August, and on the 25th the ovation which we illustrate took place. A procession of municipal and other public bodies having been formed, the General, accompanied by the Mayor, mounted a car representing a fort, and emblematic of the event which made him famous. Headed by the band of the 63rd Regiment, the *cortège* passed through the principal streets, which, of course, were profusely decorated with flags and flowers for the occasion. Guns were fired, the bells were rung, and enthusiastic shouts greeted the gratified



THE HARBOUR OF VILAFRANCA.]

soldier on all sides; and, we have his own word for it, he deeply felt and appreciated the honours showered on him by his fellow-countrymen. After the procession had made a tour of the town, it drew up in order on the grand parade. Here the Mayor read a laudatory address to Sir William, who replied in befitting terms. A levee was then held by the General in the Temperance Hall, where, no doubt, the most pleasing portion (to the gallant soldier) of the day's proceedings took place—that of the presentation to him of the ladies of Halifax. A general pyrotechnic display terminated this spontaneous tribute on the part of Nova Scotia to the merits of one of the noblest of her sons. At the levee, Sir William wore the sword of Nova Scotia steel presented to him by the colonial Legislature.

THE HARBOUR OF VILLAFRANCA.

THE cession of Villafranca to the Russians has given that harbour such a notoriety that our readers will be glad to see what it is like; and therefore we engrave the illustration on the preceding page. Not but that now the Villafranca story assumes very modest proportions. It appears that in our alarm at the prospect of Russia obtaining a footing on the shores of the Mediterranean, we ascribed intentions to the Russian Government which it never entertained. Its navy wanted a port at which it could obtain supplies; several of its vessels have been recently obliged to go to Brest to be careened; and it was therefore natural it should endeavour to create in the Mediterranean a depot of provisions. Count Cavour has himself furnished this explanation of the affair. In a circular addressed to the diplomatic agents of Sardinia, the Count states that the cession made to Russia is gratuitous and revocable at will. It comprises an old prison, and nothing more; which old prison is to be used merely as a store for coals and provisions.

M. Nowosielski, the managing director of the Russian Steam Navigation Company, is on his way to Villafranca, to superintend the installation of the Russian establishment in that port. The company intends, in the first place, to establish a direct service to Smyrna, Alexandria, and Syria, in opposition to the Austrian Lloyd's. A direct communication between Trieste and Odessa will afterwards be organised.

Villafranca is situated at the extremity of a bay formed on the east by Mounts Alban and Boron, on the west by the little peninsula of St. Hospice; it is protected on the north by successive ranges of high mountains. The bay is admirably sheltered, and a strong squadron could anchor there in safety. But the port is so near France, and is so difficult to defend, that the concentration there of any important naval materiel would have been unwise on the part of the Turin Government; consequently, it has been allowed to fall gradually into its present state of decay. The town of Villafranca is built, like several others along the coast, in terraces which rise one above the other. From the bay the appearance of its white houses rising from the lovely blue of the Mediterranean is striking, and its picturesque character is enhanced by the luxuriance of the olive plantations which hem it in on all sides. The plantations of which we make mention play a great part in the history of this petty spot, which has unexpectedly attracted the attention of Europe. In the time of the Romans, it was celebrated for its olives, which earned for it the name of "Portus Olivula," and by that title it was known even in the thirteenth century. In the ninth century, the Saracens, who had invaded the country, were driven into the sea by Gibalin Grimaldi, a noble attached to the fortunes of William the First, Count of Arles and Provence. As a recompense for this exploit, Grimaldi received the territory in fief from the Count. Charles of Anjou recognised the immense advantages offered by this port, and expended considerable efforts in raising it to importance. He encouraged settlers in every manner, and relieved the poor from all fiscal burdens. From the above franchise, proceeded the name of the new town, "Cieutat Franca" or Villafranca. In the hands of the House of Savoy, Villafranca underwent considerable transformation, and became a State arsenal. It fell into the hands of the French Republican army in its first Italian campaign without any attempt at defence. The French obtained as spoils 100 pieces of artillery and a frigate. After having been occupied during the Napoleonic epoch by the French, Villafranca returned to the possession of Sardinia.

ENGLISH COOLNESS.—Some papers descriptive of England by a French lady, have appeared at Paris. These papers are of the absurdest kind, but with all his droll eccentricities the Englishman is invariably alluded to as the possessor of that cool, indomitable courage which often prompts him to perform feats and to face dangers in so reckless a manner that his conduct not unfrequently verges upon foolhardiness. An absurd but apposite anecdote bearing upon this idiosyncrasy has lately been circulated. A traveller who had passed with a guide safely through the Brèche de Roland, in the Pyrenees, suddenly conceived the idea of clambering an adjoining peak, simply because he was told that every one who had yet attempted it had paid the forfeit of his life. The more the guide endeavoured to dissuade him the more firmly he resolved to accomplish the task or perish. He had already achieved a third of the ascent of this almost perpendicular crag, overhanging a rocky gorge 2,000 feet below, when, to his surprise, he heard the sound of hard breathing just behind. Looking over his shoulder he beheld a stranger clinging by his hand and feet, and yet toiling steadily and manfully up the same fearful path. "Ah!" exclaimed he, "you come to share with me the glory of this undertaking." "Not a notion of the sort." "You want, then, doubtless, to enjoy the sublimity of the prospect from the top?" "Nothing further from my intention." "Are you aware that every step is at the hazard of your life?" "Undoubtedly." "Then, let me ask, what on earth can bring a sane man on such an errand? I have an object." The Englishman smiled; both set to work again, resolutely digging their nails into the granite clefts. At last, finding themselves on a plateau a few feet square, covered with ice, they halted for a few moments, when the stranger, raising his hat, respectfully observed, "You can hardly deny, sir, that you are at every step encountering great risk, nor can you, I think, under the circumstances, fail to admit the value of my wares." "You have at least chosen," said the Englishman, "an extraordinary spot for disposing of them, with the clouds a thousand feet beneath us, and the thermometer much below freezing." "Oh! not a word about that. I've got all we want at hand—pen, ink, and paper, and you can use my shoulder for a desk. I am an agent to the company for insurance against Accidental Death. Before you go higher let me entreat of you to think of your family and to fill up this form." The Englishman smiled at the oddity of the proceeding, signed the form, gave a check for the premium, descended safely, and was never heard of afterwards. The agent also cautiously descended, satisfied with his commission, and at having zealously discharged his duty to his employers.

EMBODIMENT OF THE MILITIA.—Revised instructions have been issued for those previously in force for carrying on the volunteering from the embodied militia to the regular army. No man is to be received for the infantry of the line under five feet four inches, or who is under eighteen or above thirty years of age. Commanding officers are to afford every facility to the men in selecting the regiments which they may wish to join, or which they may be notified as most in want of recruits. All volunteers are allowed to reckon one half of their embodied militia service, rendered while over the age of eighteen, as a part of line service, to entitle them to pension, and any other advantages, such as good conduct pay, &c., belonging to the regular army, provided they shall have completed six months' militia service.

AFFAIRS AT STATEN ISLAND.—A letter from New York, dated the 15th of September, says:—"Staten Island has been placed under martial law, and a body of troops now holds possession of the quarantine grounds and some portion of the district adjoining. This, however, is the only appearance of martial law that there is. In other respects, and in all other places, the constituted authorities still bear sway. The Board of Health and the Executive of the State are placed in a somewhat embarrassing dilemma as to what course they should pursue with regard to the rebuilding of the Quarantine. There is a very decided feeling prevalent amongst all classes against its present site, both from the danger to which it exposes the inhabitants of the island and its vicinity to New York. But if, on the other hand, it is now removed to any other place, however desirable, the change will unmistakably wear the appearance of succumbing to intimidation, and afford encouragement for future displays of mob violence. It is hard to decide whether yellow fever or lynch law is the worse evil, and yet, under present circumstances, it is almost impossible to take proper precautions against both. An action is about to be commenced against the county to make it responsible in damages for the mischief done, estimated at about \$50,000; but whether it will be possible to get a verdict against it is another question. The same may be said of the leading rioters, all of whom are in custody, and are under bail to appear for trial. I do not think, however, that one of them ever will be convicted."

BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND MARRIAGES IN ENGLAND.

POPULATION.

WE are saved in this time of dearth for news by some valuable statistics. The Registrar-General has just issued his report, from which we gather the following information:—

The names of 1,366,633 persons were enrolled on the national registers during the year 1858, commemorating the entrance of 657,453 living children into the English community, the removal of 390,506 men, women, and children from its ranks by death, and the matrimonial union of 318,674 persons, by whom 159,337 new families were founded.

The natural increase of population, by the excess of births over deaths, was 266,947, or 731 daily.

The marriages exceeded by 7,224, the births by 22,410, the marriages and births of the preceding year; and the deaths were less by 35,197 than the deaths of that year. Hence the natural increase of the population was unusually great.

The population of the United Kingdom has not increased at home, but has sent out a swarm of emigrants. The number of English and Welsh emigrants was 64,527, or if we add a due proportion of the numbers whose birthplace is not returned, 72,215; while the Scotch emigrants corrected were 13,467, the Irish emigrants 80,269. 10,603 foreigners sailed also from our ports.

In the year 1856, the rate of marriage in the population was 1,674 to 100 persons living, of births, 3,452, of deaths, 2,050; or one person married to every sixty persons living, one child was born to every 29 living, and one person died to every 49 living. Upon an average of nineteen years the annual rate per cent. of marriage was, 1,634, of birth, 3,285, of death, 2,236; or one person married to every 61, one birth to every 30, and one death to every 45 persons living.

MARRIAGES.

133,619 marriages were celebrated according to the rites of the Established Church; and 25,718 otherwise. The proportion of persons who married according to the rites of the Church was 84 in 100.

It was laid down in the two previous reports as the result of the returns, that a high price of wheat depresses marriage among the classes who marry by banns to a greater extent than it depresses marriage among the classes who marry by licence. Thus, in the six years when the price of wheat was highest, the annual marriages per cent. on the population were 801, of which 134 were marriages of the higher and middle classes, who when they belong to the Established Church marry by licence, and 667 were artisans and labourers. When the price of wheat was lowest these proportions became 831 and 127, and 704. This principle is further confirmed by the experience of another year. The average price of wheat in 1856 was 69s. 2d. a quarter; the marriages by banns were in the proportion of 4,888 to one marriage by licence. In the previous year, when the price of wheat was 74s. 8d., the proportions were 4,883 to one. In the five years when the price of wheat ranged from 36s. 1d. to 50s. 1d., and was 42s. 9d. on an average, the marriages by banns were in the proportion of 5,530 to one, and ranged from 5,429 to 5,666 to one.

The Quakers married in unusual numbers; their marriages in the last three years were 52, 57, and 72. Their marriages in the last year were only exceeded in the years 1845 and 1847.

9,120 young men and 20,218 young women married under twenty-one years of age. Of 100 men were married 572, of 100 women who married, 1834 were under age. Early marriages have been growing more common every year since 1848. The proportion of young women under age was thirteen in 100 married for the seven years 1841-7; and it increased every year afterwards up to 18 in 1851, which was again surpassed by the number 1834 in 1856. The proportion of young men under age increased in the same years, but not to the same extent. 22,214 widowers and 14,915 widows remarried; 14,462 widowers married spinners, and 7,163 widows married bachelors. Of 100 men who were married 1394 were widowers; 100 women, 936 were widows. 113,437 men and 95,204 women wrote their names, 45,900 men and 64,133 women made their marks, in signing the marriage register. 71 in 100 men wrote their names, and 29 made marks. In 100 women, 60 wrote their names and 40 made marks.

BIRTHS.

657,453 children were born alive in the year, and the annual birth rate was 3,452 per cent., the average birth rate of the 19 years having been 3,285; it is the highest birth rate in English records. All the births are not registered; and it must be borne in mind that the increase in 19 years from 3,029 to 3,452, is in some degree due to the progress of the registration of births, which is partly voluntary and partly dependent on the zeal of the registrars in acquiring information.

The estimated number of women of the age 15-45 was 4,484,003, about 670,602 bore children in the year, consequently, 3,813,401 women of this age, that is, 85 in 100 of them, or nearly 6 out of 7, bore no children. The resources for maintaining the supply of the population of England and Wales are thus abundant.

42,651 children, namely, 21,655 boys and 20,996 girls, were born out of wedlock in the year. The proportion is 6.5 born out of wedlock, 93.5 born in wedlock, in every 100 children born, or nearly as 1 to 14. The proportional number of illegitimate children is higher than it was in the two previous years.

DEATHS.

390,506 deaths were registered in the year, or less by 35,197 than the deaths in the previous year; and the rate of mortality was 2,050 per cent., or little more than 20 deaths in 1,000. This is the lowest rate observed. The average annual rate of mortality in the 19 years was 2,236 (nearly 22 in 1,000); and the rate ranged from 2,050 (1 in 49) to 8,512 (1 in 40).

The mortality was at the rate of 2,125 per cent. among males, 1,978 per cent. among females; showing an excess of 0.147 among males. The deaths of males were to the deaths of females as 104 to 100.

The mortality in 1856 was below the average in every county of England, except Durham.

The winter quarter of 1856 was mild, and 103,014 deaths were registered, whereas the deaths in the severe winter quarter of 1855 had amounted to 134,542. The relative rates of mortality in the seasons of 1856, taking 1,000 as the standard, were 1,061 and 1,031 in the winter and spring quarters, 928 and 980 in the summer and autumn quarters.

THE HEALTH OF THE COUNTRY.

It is now well established by extensive observation that England is the healthiest country in Europe. France stands next to England in salubrity. In the continental cities the annual rate of mortality is seldom less than 30 in 1,000; and frequently as high as 40. In London the rate of mortality is only 25 in 1,000. The healthiest parts of England are not yet places of general resort, but the annual mortality in the various districts comprising watering-places seldom exceeds 21 in 1,000 of the population, and is probably lower in those regions of the districts to which visitors resort. The lowest mortality at the English watering-places, occurs at Eastbourne—only 15 in 1,000; Worthing, the Isle of Wight, Muford (including Lowestoft), Barnstaple (Hilcombe inclusive), and Anglesey, 17 in 1,000; Hastings, Upton-on-Severn (including Malvern), and Aberystwith, 18 in 1,000; the Isle of Thanet, Newton Abbot (including the east and south-east of Devon), 19 in 1,000. After these the rates of mortality rise gradually to 23 and 24, which numbers represent the somewhat less salubrious districts of Yarmouth and Bath. Clifton also stands as high as 23, but a part of Bristol is included. Tunbridge Wells stands at 20, Dover at 21, Cheltenham at 20, Warwick (Leamington) at 20, Derbyshire (Buxton, Matlock, &c.) at 20, Scarborough at 21, Harrogate at 20, Whitby at 21, Kendal at 20, and Bangor at 21.

ESSAY ON COAL, BY AN OXFORD EXAMINATION CANDIDATE.—The following paper on "Coal" was delivered by one of the candidates to the examiners at Cheltenham:—"Coal is a black mineral. The way they produce it is this:—First they dig a large pit in the earth. Then they cut down a quantity of timber, and put it in the pit, and cover the whole with peat. Then they burn the timber. After it has been burnt once it becomes charcoal, and out of the charcoal they make oxygen gas, with which we light our streets and houses."

THE REGISTRY OF WRECKS.

THE annual registry of wrecks shows that a thousand vessels and more are put annually in peril, four hundred are absolutely lost, eight hundred lives are destroyed, and a million and a half of property are sunk off our own coasts, in our own waters, year after year. An average of five years gives 1,025 wrecks a year, and a loss of 830 lives. In 1857 there were but 532 lives lost, but the disasters were even more numerous than usual, and amount up to 1,143. Collisions, too, have been less frequent and of a more excusable character, showing better seamanship or greater care.

More than one-half of the entire number of wrecks occurred last year on the shore between Dungeness and the Pentland Frith, and in the classification of cargoes it is the colliery traffic which makes the most prominent figure: that is because the vessels are so ill constructed or so rotten as not to be proof against a common gale of wind. Within the last few months a ship of this description was riding on the Norfolk coasts. A gale of wind sprung up, and she forthwith made a signal of distress. The life-boat was out in a moment, but before it could be launched the collier had gone fairly to pieces from her own rottenness, and every soul on board perished. What with unseaworthy vessels, overloading, bad charts, defective compasses, and incompetent masters, a "very large proportion" of our annual casualties may be set down to faults of our own commission; and the mischief is increased by the abuse of a system which ought to be operative only for good. The Registry of the Board of Trade speaks of "inconsiderate marine insurance" as among the sources of disaster; by which euphemistic phrase we presume is meant the practice of sending vessels to sea in a state unfit for the voyage, and then covering the risk by insurance.

If we investigate the statistics of last year, we shall find that the number of lives brought into imminent danger amounted to no fewer than 2,200, of which, as we have said, 532 were actually lost. Out of the 1,668 persons rescued from death, as many as 398 owed their preservation to the immediate agency of life-boats, and 243 more to the aid of mortar, rocket, and other apparatus from the shore. This list might have been largely increased if the extension of the life-boat system had been as complete as it ought to be; for it must be remembered that the perils of fishing smacks and small boats are not included in these returns, though in both cases such emergencies as life-boats alone could meet are of constant occurrence.

On a single day in the year 1851, 117 vessels were wrecked on these coasts. Last year, as many as 13 of the finer class of ships, 1,200 tons and upwards, were among the sufferers. The instances of wreck and disaster are distributed, as might be presumed, very unequally over the several months of the year. In 1857 March and October presented large totals, the effect, no doubt, of equinoctial gales, but January gave the most fearful list of all, showing no less than a fourth of the entire aggregate. May, June, and July were the months most favourable, each offering returns only about half as serious as those of February and April, August and September, November and December. Storms, however, like certain diseases, operate by violent and epidemic visitations, rather than by steady and regular action. We have brought our passenger traffic at sea, whether on long or short voyages, to a state of striking excellence. Anything like a serious disaster to the vessels of great ocean-going companies has now become of very rare occurrence. The Cunard line to America, considering the waters navigated, and the speed maintained, has been a miracle of success. Not only has no vessel been lost, but the collision which occurred the other day was the first of its kind, and we believe that on one occasion only has a packet put back to port after starting. On other routes, too, the punctuality and the safety of the passages made are now remarkable. Of late years we have been shocked by no stories like those of the *Tweed* and the *Amazon*; while as to the Channel navigation, the loss of the ill-fated *Violet* between Ostend and Dover is almost the single instance of such a catastrophe in those waters. But the truth is, salutary vigilance is wanting in the case of our common coasters. Nobody thinks of inquiring whether a collier is well found, well handled, or fit to swim, and even the spur of self-interest is lost when a good insurance covers all. Yet, putting the claims of humanity aside, the loss must fall somewhere, and a million and a half a year is a heavy sum.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

WHAT might have been a very fatal railway collision took place on Thursday at the Hengod station on the Rhymney Valley line. The station stands at the foot of a steep incline, down which a number of heavy mineral wagons, with no one in charge, made their escape, and approached the station with great velocity. A passenger train containing about twenty persons, was standing there, on the same line of rails. When the wagons were descried coming down great alarm arose, and the passengers, who were locked in, succeeded, all save a few, in scrambling out of the windows. In another second the passenger carriages were smashed to atoms, but wonderful to say four or five persons who remained in them were not hurt.

Another railway calamity, which might equally have proved fatal, happened at Preston, on Saturday night. A passenger train, from Preston to London, was ready to start, when a goods train was signalled, and the driver of the passenger train was warned by the danger signals. He, however, disregarded or did not observe them; and the train quitting the station, dashed into the approaching goods train. Terrible confusion of course prevailed; and as soon as the officials and others arrived at the scene of the collision, it was found that several passengers were severely, though happily not fatally, injured. The engine was quite disabled, and two wagons were completely smashed.

The last van of a train on the South Wales Railway, from Newport to Cardiff, took fire. The van contained eight or ten rams, which, from weakness, were all burnt alive. Dreadful stories are told of their sufferings, as that their fat ran through the floor of the van, "congealing in flat cakes."

COLLIER RIOT IN SOUTH YORKSHIRE.

A RIOT of a rather extraordinary character took place, on Friday week, at the hamlet of Hoyle Hill, near Barnsley, which is principally inhabited by colliers employed at the Oaks Colliery, in the district. The men turned out three or four months ago, and all attempts at a settlement having failed, a number of colliers from the midland and northern coal-fields were imported. To make way for these, many of the old hands were ejected from the houses they held under the proprietors of the colliery; but, being determined not to leave the place, they set up some tents, in which they have taken up their residence with their families, each receiving on an average about 10s. a week from the Colliers' Association. The canvas town was frequently visited by the people in the neighbourhood, and on Sunday there could not have been less than 3,000 persons present. On that occasion, all went on quietly; sermons being preached and religious addresses given by several of the colliers (local preachers). On Tuesday, a tea-party on a large scale was given by the turnouts, and on the next evening (Wednesday), from some cause not clearly known, the men at present working in the pit as "black sheep" marched backwards and forwards, armed with sticks and other weapons, threatening to attack the tents of the turnouts. No attack, however, took place, and all was quiet again until about eight o'clock on Friday night, when a great number of men and boys in the district suddenly made their appearance at the Railway Inn, used by the "black sheep" as a rendezvous. Some of the intruders called for ale; but before they could be served, a row was got up. The intention of the invaders became apparent: the "black sheep" were assaulted and driven from the house; and then the mob, which consisted of 300 or 400 persons, attacked the house, breaking everything that came in their way, causing the greatest terror.

The mob then proceeded along the road, breaking windows as they went along, until they came to about sixty houses belonging to the colliery proprietors, and in which the newly-engaged men were located. On these they made the most furious assault. In some of the houses nearly every square of glass was broken with the frames. Six of the West Riding constabulary now appeared, but seeing the folly of encountering so large a gang, they kept quiet. The mob having played out its little freak, dispersed.

ETON CRIMEAN MEMORIAL.—One of the memorial windows for the Etonians who fell in the Crimean war has just been placed in the chapel of Eton College, on the south side of the ante-chapel, and it is of most beautiful and appropriate design. The subjects represented are—1. The resurrection of Christ; 2. The victory of Michael over Satan; 3. The Crucifixion. With these subjects are associated the stories of the three Centurions mentioned in the New Testament, and three small groups of dying officers of the British army.

SIR JAMES BROOKE IN LIVERPOOL.

RAJAH SIR JAMES BROOKE visited Liverpool on Monday, and was entertained by the Mayor, George J. Holme, to a *déjeuner* held in the Town Hall. The Bishop of Chester was present. After the *déjeuner*, Sir James Brooke, in responding to the toast of his health, gave a history of his connection with Sarawak, and his notions with regard to that territory:—

"Sarawak," he said, "cannot stand alone. She must lean upon the support of an European state in order to insure that permanency which is at the root of all prosperity. The proposed arrangement is, that England should grant a protectorate to Sarawak; and, secondly, that she should fund the sum which I have expended to bring Sarawak to its present prosperous condition. The other details will follow as a matter of course. This proposition is just; for, the arrangement being advantageous, England should not benefit at my expense; or, in other words, should not trade upon my small capital; and, having acquired a valuable province, she should not repay my poor but very highly-lauded service by the deprivation of my inheritance. It is, moreover, not only just, but necessary, for it will afford a national sanction for consistency, and supply me with means for placing Sarawak in a state of efficiency after the late Chinese insurrection, which was brought upon her chiefly in consequence of her close relations with England."

Having described the geographical features of the country with a view to show the commercial advantages which England would derive from the arrangement, Sir James said that the value of the countries of the Eastern Archipelago had been recognised by the people of England; and the cession of the island of Java, with many another rich dependency, had been deplored as a foolish and fatal act of neglect by the Government of the day. A bright jewel was plucked out from the British Crown for lack of knowledge to appreciate its value.

"Do not," he continued, "stand by and see this error repeated in the present day with regard to Borneo. Do not permit the north-west coast of Borneo to be cast away in order that you may regret its loss hereafter. regard that possession as a link uniting the British possessions in Australia and India with our vast and growing interest in the empire of China. Sarawak holds a commanding position on the shore of the China Sea, both for commercial purposes and those of protection and defence; she possesses a fertile soil, valuable tropical products, extensive forests of valuable timber, and is rich in the mineral most needed for the maintenance of our political position and the development of our commerce; for the value of the coal fields of the north-west coast of Borneo can be estimated only by the extension of our commerce and the increase of our steam marine. It will be well for the statesmen and merchants of England to pause and consider the coming exigencies of the nation. The Chinese treaty has been concluded; that vast and decrepit empire lies prostrate before British commerce and European diplomacy. It requires no profound sagacity to predict that the nation whose territory borders the China Sea, and whose resources are nearest and most valuable, will gain a paramount influence over—nay, more, a political mastery in China; and for want of prevention it may be that the commerce of England will find itself impeded, and have to struggle against obstacles far worse than any which have yet been experienced. I cannot believe, however, that she will turn slyward, and that her government will continue deaf to the claims of national grandeur and commercial extension. The ripening harvest of commerce must be watched and carefully reaped. An European policy is to be developed in the East, and the north-west coast of Borneo is a most important position. Do not, then, throw it away."

Having disclaimed the object of mere personal aggrandisement, Sir James said, a very few months more would decide the future of Sarawak, and bind or break the ties which so long had connected her with this country. Sir James concluded by urging those present, and the merchants of Liverpool generally, to recommend to her Majesty's government the adoption of a policy which would redound to the honour and advantage of England, and confer lasting blessings upon the inhabitants of the north-west coast of Borneo.

DISASTERS AT SEA.

COLLISION AND LOSS OF LIFE IN THE BRISTOL CHANNEL.—A French schooner, called the *Galante*, went into Bristol for repairs on Friday, having been in collision with a French brig. The collision, which took place off Lundy Island, was a severe one, and the master and two of the crew of the schooner, while endeavouring to get on board the brig, were crushed between the two vessels.

The *Ballacarra* sailed from Hong Kong, on the 11th of July last, with a crew of thirty-three, and twenty-one Chinese passengers. When about ten miles below Macao, the Chinese portion rose on the others, rushed into the cabins, seized the arms, and commenced a downright slaughter. The captain was severely wounded in three places—the chief mate was also wounded. The second mate and five of the crew were killed, and seven were wounded. The mutineers, having had enough of murder, then set the ship on fire, and left her, taking with them chronometers, clothes, and other valuable articles. The remaining part of the crew managed to get the ship back to Macao.

The crew of the American ship *Golden State*, which was lying at Penang, in July, mutinied, and so injured the first mate that he died. The second mate armed himself with a revolver, but it missed fire, and he was savagely beaten and thrown through the skylight. The carpenter (who behaved very gallantly) hoisted the flag half-mast. The signal was seen from the shore, and the mutineers were captured as they were pulling for land.

At Ramsgate, on Saturday morning, alarm guns were heard from the Goodwin light-vessels. The Ramsgate Harbour Commissioners' lifeboat, towed by their steamer, immediately proceeded to sea. They found the *Sultana*, of Jersey, coal-laden, upon the sand among the breakers. The lifeboat's crew boarded the wreck at considerable risk, but fortunately as the flood-tide rose the wind abated, and by pumping, and with the aid of the steamer, the men succeeded in getting the vessel safely off.

THE WEEDON INQUIRY.

An inquiry is now going on in reference to the management of the Government stores at Weedon. It has been charged against some of the officials that they have received bribes to allow goods of an inferior quality to pass, and that when no bribes were offered them the parties sending in goods met with every kind of obstruction and annoyance, and not unfrequently had their goods condemned. As far as the inquiry has gone it has been proved that the accounts at Weedon have been kept in a most scandalous manner; for although a whole legion of clerks have now been engaged for more than twelve months in endeavouring to unravel them, they are not as yet in a sufficiently advanced state to be laid before the commissioners. It has also been shown that a large portion of cloth which had been sold by the Government as old stores had been resold to them at a considerably advanced price. Further, it has been admitted that boots, shoes, and cloth which had been rejected by the officials at Weedon were afterwards sold at a loss, bought up by dealers, and again sold to militia colonels. From these admissions it follows that either the inspectors at Weedon were too rigid, or the inspectors of the militia too lax in their examinations. Against the supposition that the Weedon officials were too scrupulous and careful, however, one or two of the witnesses admitted that goods which had been returned on their hands as not being up to the standard were afterwards sent back with others and passed. The same may be said with reference to some boots which were bought at the sale at the Tower at a very low price, and resold to the Government at the usual figure.

As yet there has been no direct evidence as to the taking of bribes, although most of the witnesses had heard rumours of such a system being carried on. One witness did indeed mention the fact that he sent a present of two or three dozen of wine to one of the inspectors, but that gentleman immediately desired that the bill might be sent, which was done, and he paid it. On being asked why he sent the wine, the witness replied that he was told it was customary to do so. That such a system is most injurious to the public interest, and highly prejudicial to individuals, is most apparent, and the present investigation should be carried out to the full.

FRAUDS IN A LONDON BANKING HOUSE.—The discovery of a fraud at the banking house of Messrs. Smith, Payne, and Co., has been the topic of conversation for the last few days. On the first announcement it was feared that the amount involved was considerable, the delinquent, Francis John Beckford, who had been nearly thirty years in the house, having held the responsible post of chief clerk in the bill department. An examination of the accounts, however, fortunately shows that this is not the case, and that the full loss will not exceed, if it in reality approaches, £2,000. Although from some irregularities his conduct had been subjected to remonstrance on the part of the partners, it was not supposed he had been guilty of any absolute depredation until after he had quitted their service some few weeks since, but eventual inquiry shows that he has for a lengthened period tampered with his accounts, and appropriated remittances from the country to his own use. Immediately the fact of his guilt was established, instructions were given by Messrs. Smith, Payne, and Co. to arrest him, and he has been brought to London, and undergone an examination at the Mansion-house. He stands remanded.

THE BOYNE HILL CONFESSIONAL.

THE great Boyne Hill confessional case was on Friday the subject of an inquiry in the Town Hall at Maidenhead, before Commissioners appointed by the Bishop of Oxford. They were Dr. Phillimore, Chancellor of the Diocese, the Venerable James Randall, Archdeacon of Berkshire; the Rev. J. Austin Leigh, vicar of Bray, and rural dean; Mr. Charles Sawyer, of Heywood Lodge; and Mr. J. Hibbert, of Braywick Lodge. The Town Hall was crowded throughout the inquiry. The prosecutor, the Reverend John Shaw, vicar of Stoke-Pogis, was represented by Mr. H. W. Cripps, of the Oxford Circuit; and Mr. J. D. Coleridge appeared for the Reverend Temple West, the accused. Dr. Phillimore pointed out that the powers and authority of the Commission were limited to inquire whether there was any *prima facie* ground for instituting further proceedings. Mr. Cripps then opened the case, and called as a witness Mrs. Anne Arnold, the woman to whom it was alleged Mr. West had put improper questions. Mrs. Arnold repeated, on oath, the statements already made public, respecting the questions put to her on the commandments. Under cross-examination, she said she did not tell any one that it was all a made-up affair of Mrs. Ellen's; nor that Mr. West had not asked her not to tell her husband; nor that the new curate was just the person to visit sick people.

Mr. Coleridge made a long and eloquent speech in favour of Mr. West, expressing much virtuous indignation at the attempts made by the newspapers to destroy his character, and showing that his conduct was consistent with the conduct of high authorities in the church. He then called witnesses. Mrs. Carden, a lady in the habit of visiting the poor, said Mrs. Arnold told her that Mr. West had gone through the commandments with her, and that he was "just the right gentleman to visit the sick." Jane Wynch said Mrs. Arnold told her that it was all a made-up tale between Mrs. Ellen and Mr. Clark. Captain Leigh declared that Mrs. Arnold had said she was sorry there had been any stir in the matter. Mr. West himself was called as a witness. He admitted that he had put the commandments into the form of questions, and had explained them. He did not tell Mrs. Arnold that if she hoped to be delivered and live she must confess to him, or that unless she were confirmed she could not go to heaven, or not to tell her husband what had passed. He had put a pointed question with reference to the Seventh Commandment. Since he came to Boyne Hill, he had begun "a more systematic course," and these questions were part of that course. Inducing persons to confess to him is not part of his systematic course. "I have told sick people if there was any weight between them and God, and they would like to open their minds to me, they could do so. I have asked them if they could not ease themselves of their burden, and said that if they could not I should be glad to assist them. Beyond that I never went."

We must add that Mrs. Arnold appeared to have lived a very loose life. The Commissioners retired for half an hour to consider their decision, and on their return Dr. Phillimore said:—

"The Commissioners, having paid the best attention in their power to the evidence of the witnesses and the arguments of counsel, are unanimously of opinion that the charge against Mr. West, that in the performance of his ministerial duty on the occasion of visiting a certain sick woman he put improper questions to her with a view of leading her to make confession to him, has not been substantiated by the evidence. The charge rests upon the sole testimony of Anne Arnold, unsupported by that of any other witness, but contradicted in various material points by witnesses whose character has not been impugned. The Commissioners have arrived at this conclusion without taking into consideration the evidence of Mr. West, whom, according to the best construction they could place on the 14th and 15th of Victoria, they allowed to be examined. They therefore now, in compliance with the requirements of the statute, openly and publicly declare that there is not sufficient ground for instituting further proceedings, and they will advise the Bishop to that effect. And I declare this Court to be now closed."

This terminated the proceedings, after a continuous sitting of eleven hours. The judgment was received with considerable cheering, mingled, however, with equally strong manifestations of disapprobation.

THE REV. ALFRED POOLE AND THE CONFESSIONAL.—A letter written by Mr. Poole, in reply to an address forwarded a few days ago from "the members of the Guild of St. Alban's residing in the Liverpool sub-district," has been published. In this letter Mr. Poole remarks:—"The peculiar hardship of my case is, that, in opposition to all the principles of common justice, I have been condemned upon vague and general charges, and in entire ignorance of the definite grounds upon which I am supposed to have acted undutifully to the Church of England. However painful and distressing such treatment has been to me—and I confess I have felt more keenly the wrong done me by my spiritual fathers than all the reproach and misrepresentation to which I have been exposed in other quarters—yet I shall rejoice if by any means the attention of burdened and troubled souls shall be drawn to this most precious but sadly-neglected 'ministry of consolation.' For there is no one thing in the course of my ministry which I look back upon with greater satisfaction and more earnest thankfulness to God, than the fact of the many souls which have been saved from misery and self-destruction—and I hope and believe from death eternal—by means of this ministrations, for the exercise of which I am now called in question. As for the outcries of the people on this subject—especially in reference to the Seventh Commandment—I regard such demonstrations as only the natural result of anything like definite dealing in the application of the Gospel remedy to what we all acknowledge to be the great social evil of the day. It is the natural cry of anguish, as the physician feels round the sore which he is commissioned to heal; or only another form of the exclamation which the unclean spirits sent forth on the approach of Him who came to cast them out, 'Art Thou come to torment us before we die?' As for the doctrine itself, as it is part of the everlasting Gospel, we may rest assured that God will arise and maintain His own cause, fully persuaded that all the attempts of men to oppose and put it down will only result in its being more fully and firmly established."

MR. TOWNSEND AND THE STAGE.—Mr. Townsend, late M.P. for Greenwich, attracted crowded houses at the Margate Theatre, last week, by his performances of "Richard the Third" and "Othello." On Saturday his constituents were somewhat surprised (and we hope ashamed), by the intimation that their member would appear at the Woolwich Theatre on the 28th and 29th ult. (Tuesday and Wednesday last). The following is a copy of an announcement issued by Mr. Lawrence, the proprietor of the Woolwich Theatre:—"The management has the pleasure to announce that, at the earnest solicitation of a numerous body of his Woolwich friends, Mr. J. Townsend, the eminent tragedian, late M.P. for Greenwich, has consented to appear for two nights only, viz., on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 28th and 29th instant."

BRUTAL IGNORANCE.—Mrs. Moodie, aged forty-nine, was the wife of a licensed victualler in Clerkenwell. On Tuesday evening, of last week, she left home to visit a friend in the City Road. On her return, about ten o'clock at night, she was discovered on the steps of a door in Wilmington Square, surrounded by a mob, which treated her with all the brutal rilldery that a drunken woman usually excites in the streets of London. The police coming up, she was conveyed on a stretcher to the station-house, and Inspector Spiller (who also took her for "drunk and disorderly") locked her up in a cell. However, he sent for a Mr. Lellwood, a surgeon, who fell into the same mistake. He declared her to be under the influence of drink, and the unfortunate woman was left until four o'clock in the morning; then she was removed to the hospital. She was then insensible, and died about six hours after her admission. On a post mortem examination, death was found to have resulted from apoplexy. An inquest was opened, the jury returning the following verdict:—"Died from apoplexy, and the jury earnestly hope that a representation will be made to the Commissioners of Police, in order that persons apparently drunk may not be locked up until their friends are sent for, and also a medical practitioner."

A CLERGYMAN DEPRIVED OF HIS GOWN.—The churchwarden of a country parish received peremptory orders from a rev. gentleman to provide him with a new surplice by a given time. The churchwarden was obedient, but requested that the old one should be returned. This the rev. gentleman refused. The churchwarden being equally obstinate, declined to deliver the new one; and as the rev. gentleman had informed the warden that he would not again put on "the old rag," as he termed it, the consequence is that the minister goes through his public duties denuded of this necessary appendage to his Sabbath functions.

FAST IN A QUICKSAND.—Last week, a Mrs. Hayton, who is staying at Miththorpe for the benefit of her health, whilst walking out in company with another lady, got fast in a quicksand. An old woman observing the position she was in, immediately went to her assistance, but before she had got within twenty yards of her, she also got fast and sank to above the waist. Had it not been for prompt and timely assistance, their lives would undoubtedly have been in imminent danger. As it was, nearly two hours elapsed before they were released from their perilous position.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

THIS Association held its meeting this year at Leeds; the proceedings commencing on Tuesday of last week, and terminating on the Tuesday of this week. Professor Owen delivered the inaugural lecture at the Town Hall, before a very large audience. The sections began their labours on Thursday, and many valuable papers were read. Instead of giving a barren list of the subjects discussed upon, we select a few interesting paragraphs from various papers.

MECHANICAL SCIENCE.

In the course of an address, before the British Association, Mr. Fairbairn, C.E., said he believed the Leviathan might be suspended at the stem and stern, or be poised upon a point like a scale beam, without fracture or injury. The magnitude of railway undertakings was scarcely if ever appreciated by the public. We had in this country 9,500 miles of line in actual operation; and, roughly estimating that there was one locomotive of 200-horse power to every mile, each running 120 miles a day, we had a total of 380,000 miles travelled a day, or 138 million miles a year! The force required was equivalent to that of 200,000 horses in constant operation throughout the year. A clear revenue of twelve millions sterling a year was left for distribution amongst the shareholders and creditors; but this was only 3½ per cent. per annum upon 320 millions sterling, which was the original cost of the 9,500 miles of line, or an average of £34,000 a mile. There had during the last two years been no improvement of importance in the locomotive, except the partial success in adapting it to burn coal instead of coke; but there had been considerable improvements in the formation of the permanent way, especially the introduction of the "fish joint" in the junction of rails.

COTTON AND ITS MANUFACTURES.

In a paper read by Mr. Thomas Bazley, occurred the following calculations:—In 1758, the cotton consumed in Great Britain was about 3,000,000 lbs.; this year it would probably be 100,000,000 lbs. The exports of cotton last year were shown by the Board of Trade Returns to represent upwards of 39 millions sterling; this year, the exports would probably reach 40 millions, while for home consumption 24 millions' worth would be taken, representing about 17s. per head for each of the population. The total value of the cotton manufactures of the world could not be set down at less than 140 millions sterling; which was equal to 3s. or 14 yards of calico per year for every man, woman, and child. The amount paid to cotton workers, as wages, with interest, rent, taxes, &c., was about 40 millions a year; more than half a million of workers were employed, and, upon the average of three non-workers dependent upon each, 2,000,000 persons were supported directly by the trade, the number being very greatly increased by those who lived from the constructive departments. There were about 30 million spindles working in Great Britain, with great numbers of power looms and other machines; warranting the assumption that the invested capital was more than 50 millions sterling, which would be raised to upwards of 100 millions if the auxiliary trades were considered. Liverpool, which so greatly depended upon the cotton trade, was in 1758 little more than a bathing and fishing station, and its tonnage probably did not exceed 100,000 tons; now, that tonnage was about five millions. In 1758, Manchester and its suburbs could not boast of 20,000 people; at present, 500,000 would not be an incorrect estimate. About one-eighth of the cotton consumed in Great Britain was used for calicoes for printing.

THE HISTORY OF PRICES IN 1857 AND 1858.

Mr. William Newmark read a paper on the above subject. He considered the question—How it was that, in 1857—after a period of ten years, during which constant and great additions were made to the amount of metallic money in circulation—there came to be a panic which, in severity and extent, exceeded nearly all that had occurred for thirty years, and which differed from them all in its exciting causes? There was perfect peace, except in India (which might be excluded from consideration in this instance); no scarcity, no revolutionary panic, no excessive investments in railways; and yet there was this great crisis. The range of prices first claimed notice; and he would take as the point of comparison the price of sugar in London in January, 1855, representing the price as 100. He found, on comparing prices in July, 1857 and 1858, that there was a fall during that period, in coffee, from 145 to 113; sugar, from 230 to 117; tea, from 130 to 110; cotton, silk, and hemp (taken together), from 170 to 105; wool, from 180 to 110; oils, from 105 to 80; iron, from 90 to 80; and timber, from 115 to 100. Take the prices of the first week of this month, and compare them with those of 1851, and it would be found that sugar had fallen from 140 to 125; tea, from 135 to 110; cotton, silk, and hemp, from 125 to 107; and during those seven years the gold and silver in circulation had been increased about forty per cent.

LAUNCH OF A FLOATING "DERRICK."—A very novel and huge kind of vessel, with a breadth of beam larger even than the Great Eastern, was launched on Saturday afternoon, at the Thames Iron Ship-building Works, at Blackwall. She is the first vessel, or rather "Patent Floating Derrick," which has been constructed in this country, for the purpose of carrying out Bishop's patent for raising wrecks, &c. In the United States upwards of 400 sunken and stranded vessels—among them the Ericsson steam vessel, 2,200 tons, sunk off New Jersey, with her caloric steam machinery on board, have been raised by this principle, and it was its great success in America, and the want of adequate means for the recovery of a large amount of property annually lost on the coast of the United Kingdom, that suggested its introduction in this country. The hull is a kind of diamond shape, with a large slice off the side points. She is entirely constructed of iron, as also her mast or booms. She is flat bottomed, and a bulkhead runs fore and aft through her whole length, so that when she is in operation raising a sunken vessel, one half of her will be so gradually filled with water as to counterbalance the weight hanging to her boom on the other side. Her hull is braced with iron beams of great strength, and her boom is supported by iron legs. The tonnage of the vessel is 5,000 tons, her length overall is 257 feet; breadth 90 feet (some 8 feet more than the Great Eastern), depth 14 feet. An illustration of this monster "crane" will probably appear in our next number.

THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH.—No improvement has taken place in the electrical condition of the Atlantic cable; however, there is still this much cause of gratulation, that the fault does not get worse, while it occasionally improves; considerable and distinct "reversals" from Newfoundland being discernible. The opinion gains ground that the faulty place is near the shore. The Americans are very dependent about the cable—just as before they were so madly sanguine. The south, curiously enough, has never partaken of the excitement about the cable. The planters are dreadfully afraid that it will enable the cotton speculators, of whom they have a holy horror, to victimise them.

ELECTRIC TELEGRAPHS.—The Electric and International Telegraph Company had, at the close of last year, 5,637 miles of telegraph, which were provided with 29,498 miles of wire; the British and Irish Magnetic Company had 3,441 miles, with 15,688 miles of wire; and the South-Eastern Railway Company 301 miles, with 1,296 miles of wire, making a total of 9,379 miles of telegraph. The total number of messages transmitted during the year was 1,241,163.

SHOCKING DEPRIVATION OF SPEECH.—A French lady was on the shore at a watering-place, on the French coast, when an alarm was raised that one of her children was drowning. She attempted to shriek for aid, but the shock her nervous system had received deprived her of speech. She could do nothing more than wildly gesticulate. The child was meanwhile rescued from its dangerous position. The mother, however, was unable to utter a sound, and, in spite of all the efforts of the medical man, she remained dumb.

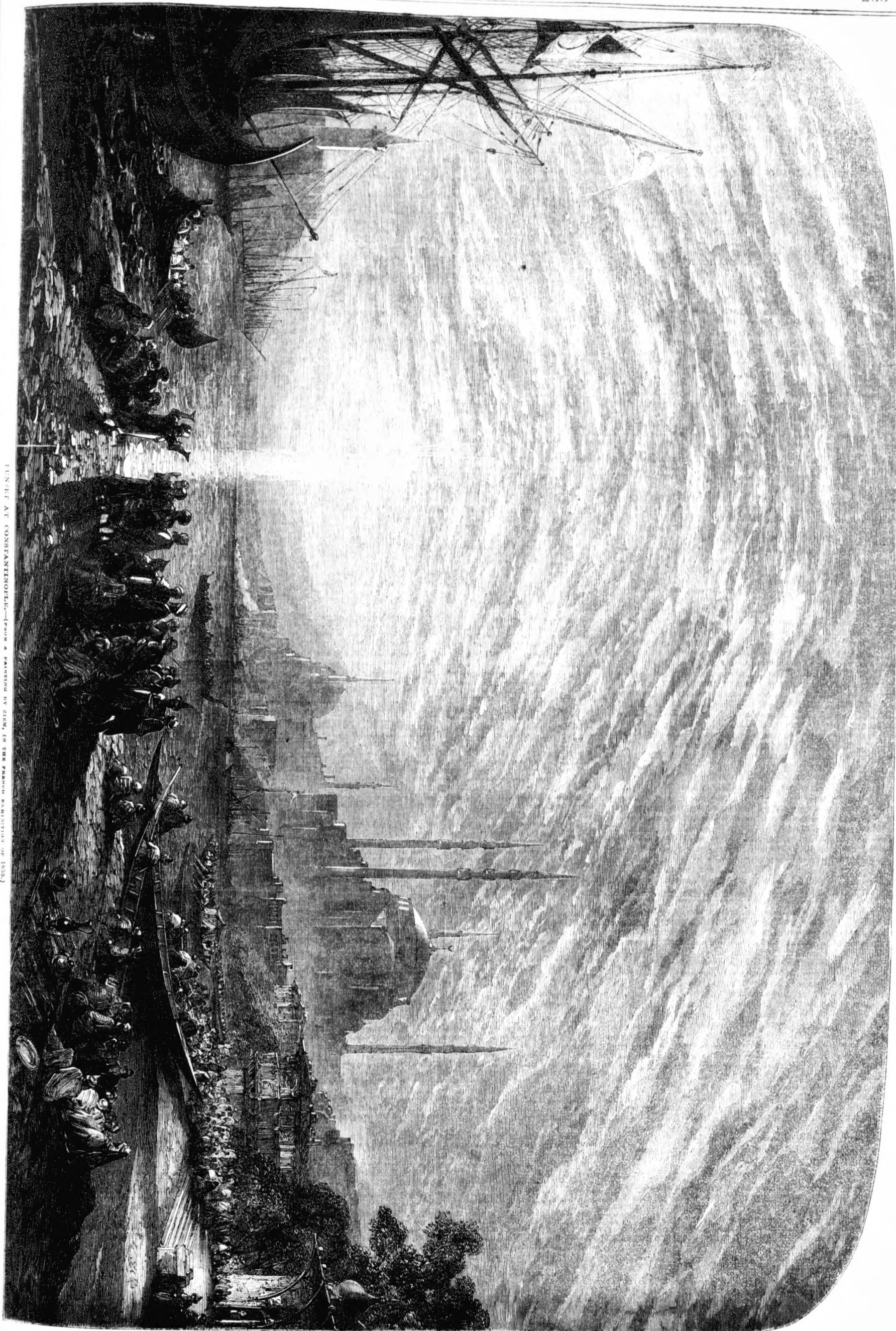
THE SEASIDE IN AUTUMN.

Who dares deny the bracing properties of sea breezes, and the invigorating effects of a dip in the "briny?" Those who would, let them cast a glance on our next page, and be convinced of their error. Look at the firm and graceful forms in their *toilettes ravissantes*, skipping merrily over the shingly beach, with the healthy abandon that gives young ladies—but just let loose from over-heated ball-rooms, and seeing fashionable life in town—a fresh ten years' lease of life. Look again, and you will see the *savants*, who, pent up amongst dusty folios nine months in the year, leaves his theoretical studies, and comes practically—hammer in hand—to knock knowledge out of the rocks, and inflate his lungs with another atmosphere than that engendered by pages of science bound in calf. It is also one of our notions, that an infusion of the saline element gives us courage to encounter many perils we should not otherwise dare to face—we mean the perils of matrimony. In the right-hand corner of our picture is evidently a gentleman very far gone indeed—we wish we were the little boy, with his impudence—and could hear: but that is no business of ours; all we want to show is, that this *doce-like* couple, subject to the same influence as others of the feathery tribe, have been caught by the salt! We have an idea also that many of the young ladies, apparently seeking material for their aquariums, are, in reality, searching after a *genus*, known as the *genus hamo*. But we must not be impertinent in our suppositions; so we will simply suppose what would be our greatest attraction were we on the beach with them.



THE SEASIDE IN AUTUMN.

R. L. G. 1858.



VIEW AT CONSTANTINOPLE.—(FROM A PAINTING BY ZIEGLER, IN THE FRENCH EXHIBITION OF 1855.)

SUNSET AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

THE engraving we give of sunset at Constantinople is from a picture by Ziem, exhibited lately in the French Exhibition. It was, undoubtedly, one of the most successful pictures ever exhibited in this country by the Continental school of landscape painters. The flood of light shed over minaret and dome by the sinking orb, realises indeed the notion of a "Golden City." The hour chosen by the artist for his picture, is that when the voice of the muezzin, calling the faithful to prayer, sounds clear and shrill over the waters of the Bosphorus, and is promptly and devoutly responded to by the "Allah-il-Allah" of the Moslem devotees.

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1858.

RAJAH BROOKE'S CLAIMS.

THERE is an important principle involved in the question—What ought to be done for Sir James Brooke and his settlement? It is one of the most significant facts in English history that our most important successes have been made by individuals before being adopted by the State. So it was in the case of India—and so with a thousand inventions which are now in general use, but which were the fruits of individual genius and energy. A political moral lies deep in the centre of the fact. Other nations depend on their governments, and refer everything to them—and this is one of the causes and one of the supports of despotism. Where every person of a country is accustomed to the idea that he is one of a race which has achieved its greatness (so to speak) in units rather than in masses, that country is in a fair way to maintain its independence. Individual self reliance becomes a habit—and against such a habit the most ingenious efforts to supersede individualism by statecraft are tried in vain.

When Sir James Brooke went as a private gentleman to Borneo in search of new duties and new inspirations, he was just doing what in Elizabeth's time was done by the Raleighs and Willoughbys. The process brought him into contact with the savage pirates of the Archipelago, and the bloodshed which ensued, raised a clamour against him which has hardly died away yet. There are people to whom a savage is an object of sympathy on sentimental grounds, and who never consider that the price paid for conserving him is the savagery of the part of the world in which he resides. The Dyaks, with their long boats and their wild faces, were unquestionably picturesque—but one may buy picturesque-ness too dear. Trade—civilisation—law—Christianity—peace—are all worth more than the interests of aborigines; and the race that will not submit to its superiors brings its destruction on its own head. To hopeless savages engaged in the savage's occupation—piracy—Sir James Brooke was a fatal foe. But where the natives recognised that a higher influence was at work, and yielded to an ascendancy based on that eternal law of the superiority of race to race, which is written broadly across the whole history of the world, the case was altogether different. His relation then was rather that of father to children than of conqueror to inferior; and this is what our relation to such tribes ought always to be. We are thrown in their way that we may govern them first, and civilise them afterwards. The task should be undertaken in a kindly as well as in a firm spirit; but if we are to abolish all rude methods of quieting the hopelessly-savage part of a people, we need not attempt the task at all. We kill black pirates as much for the sake of blacks who are not pirates as for our own.

These remarks are to anticipate the opposition which Brooke's name excites in some quarters, and which we would deprecate in advance. His scheme now is to have Sarawak formally made a British colony; and this is the very time for its execution. Since the Chinese treaty, everything that can be done should be done to complete British communication in the East. Sarawak may be viewed as a station for our vessels, as the opening of a vein of commerce, or as a point of missionary contact with extensive and important races. In either capacity, and still more in all three, it is a place well worthy of bearing the British flag. We are entering on an age of the world when communication will evidently be universal, when by steam and by electricity the whole planet will feel the contact of the nations which are at the head of the planet, and which, in fact, constitute its brain. Among these, we all hope that Britain will be a leader for centuries to come, and we cannot afford to hrow away what the genius and valour of any Englishman has put within our grasp. It is due to our traditions as well as our future, to deal handsomely with those "adventurers" (for the word has really an honourable meaning), who have risked life and spent money for the ascendancy of the British name. And, in this case, we have really no other choice. If the little colony is not adopted by the Crown, it must either fall back into barbarism (like a garden abandoned to wildness), or become Dutch, and benefit an ancient rival that we have long ago outstripped everywhere else. There would be something disgraceful in this; and of the worst example too, when we remember how private enterprise ought to be honoured by a nation which it more than anything has raised to its present greatness.

What Sir James Brooke asks in handing over what may be called his kingdom to the Crown, is not compensation for his private losses, but the discharge of liabilities incurred for the settlement itself. If it be our interest to secure the colony, it is our duty to meet this demand, and we do not think that our readers will hesitate to agree with us that both interest and duty point one way.

THE EMPRESS EUGENIE.—A letter from Paris mentions the following:—"It may be worth noticing for just what it is worth, that I was told the other day by a friend who has just returned from the south of France, that a report is being whispered at Biarritz, to the effect that the Empress Eugenie is again in a condition to afford hopes of the Imperial dynasty not hanging on the single life of the young prince. There is no doubt that the birth of a another son is the object of the Emperor's most ardent desire."

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE PORTRAIT OF THE PRINCE CONSORT, painted by Mr. Philip, was placed in the Aberdeen Town Hall on Friday afternoon. His Royal Highness is represented in the Highland garb.

THE QUEEN is said, we know not on what authority, to have sent a kindly and sympathetic letter to Mr. Wigan, on the subject of the forced withdrawal of that gentleman's son from a Brighton school, owing to the distaste of parents to their children associating with an actor's son.

THE EMPEROR OF CHINA is to have the Grand Cordon of St. Vladimir from Russia, and that of the Legion of Honour from France.

THE FREEDOM OF THE CITY OF EDINBURGH has been conferred on Mr. David Roberts, the artist.

M. LEVAL, the artist who designed the equestrian statue of Napoleon the First, at Cherbourg, has been entrusted by the French Government with the execution of a statue of the Emperor, for Longwood, St. Helena.

TWO OLD HOUSES IN PILGRIM STREET, Ludgate Hill, fell, with a thundering crash, into the street, at midnight. They were used as a depot for furniture by a Jew, and fortunately no person was in either.

THE BELGIANS have just celebrated the commemoration days of that revolution which made them independent of Holland. The festival has gradually become one of an extremely harmless nature.

MR. BRIGHT has arranged to visit Birmingham in the last week of October, and address his constituents in the Town Hall.

THE OPENING OF CHINA TO CHRISTIAN MISSIONARIES is said to be the absorbing theme in Rome; and the Pope, it is added, is about to organise a grand collection throughout Catholic Europe, on behalf of special missions.

BARCELONA JOURNALS state that the oldium having disappeared from the greater number of the vineyards, the vintage had been abundant; but, nevertheless, wine continued at a high price.

A BOY LAY DOWN ON A TRAMWAY, at Merthyr Ironworks, and slept. A barrow of hot iron was accidentally run against and upset upon him, scorching him so dreadfully that he died immediately after.

HAD ACCOUNTS continue to arrive of the health of the great violinist, Hottel.

HERR JOACHIM has left England to winter in Germany, but to return, it is said, next year.

THE ITALIAN OPERA AT PARIS will open on the 2nd of October with the "Traviata," in which the principal character will be played by Madame Penco.

THERE IS SOME TALK OF A "PEACE BANQUET" IN LIVERPOOL, to the directors of the English railways, which have been so long engaged in an exhausting war, ruinous to the interests of the shareholders.

LADY FAIRBAIN (wife of the Mayor of Leeds) has received from her Majesty a bracelet, set with diamonds and turquoises, accompanied with a letter from Sir Charles Phipps, expressive of the Queen's gratitude for the attention the Royal Family received during their visit to Woodley.

A SCHMIDT CABLE, of great strength, has been laid between England and Holland, a distance of one hundred and forty miles.

MR. LANDOR, the refugee poet, has, it is said, rejoined his wife, from whom he has been separated for forty years, and taken up his residence on an estate at Genoa, the property of his family.

M. GOLDSCHMIDT, at Paris, has discovered a new planet, in the constellation of Aquarius. It is the fifty-fourth of the asteroids, and the eleventh discovered by M. Goldschmidt. M. Goldschmidt has named the new planet Alexandra, in honour of Alexandre von Humboldt.

A SON OF MONSIEUR LAURENT died a few days ago from the sting of a wasp. He was drinking some wine from a bottle, when a wasp, which had got into it, entered the young man's throat and stung him. The swelling which ensued produced strangulation.

GENERAL SIR A. WILSON has been presented with the freedom of the burgh of Dingwall, N.B., "in consideration of his distinguished services at Delhi."

THE "CAMBRIDGE INDEPENDENT" hears "with more regret than surprise," that the issue both of the "Oxford" and of the "Cambridge Essays" is discontinued.

MARSHAL BOSQUET is said to be in a hopeless condition of ill health.

THE RECENT VISITS OF INSPECTION made to the barracks and hospitals at Chatham by Major-General Peel, have been productive of a vast amount of good; and several important improvements have already been carried out.

THE SCOTTISH NORTH-EASTERN COMPANY have commenced placing on their engines, tenders, &c., an apparatus which establishes communication between the guard and engine-driver. The former official has only to turn a wheel, and a bell fixed to the tender is set ringing by the action.

H.M.S. ENDYMION, 44, and HAMADRYAD, 42, are to be fitted up and sent to the Mersey.

THE MESSAGERIES IMPERIALES OF THE MEDITERRANEAN are about to establish a line of steamers between Suex and the Isle of Réunion, touching at Jeddah, Aden, Yambo, Massora, Mayotte, Madagascar, &c. England has hitherto alone navigated in these ports.

THE "MORNING POST" circulates a rumour that Lord Derby has solicited the advice and assistance of Lord John Russell.

A NEW CHURCH is to be erected in Lower Clevedon, for the accommodation of the working classes. The seats will be free, owing to the liberality of Lady Elton, who, we hear, is going to build and endow it.

MR. RUSKIN has returned from Switzerland, where, we presume, he has been extending his studies on "Mountain Beauty;" and Mr. Lavard has left for Italy to explore lost treasures of art, which are almost as effectually buried under Italian whitewash, as were the Assyrian antiquities beneath the sands of the desert.

ADMIRALTY ORDERS have been received at Chatham dockyard for the line-of-battle screw steamer Hood, 91, to be brought forward for launching forthwith.

THE PARLIAMENT OF HOLLAND has voted fifteen million florins indemnity to Dutch Democrats and Surinam for the liberation of slaves. Three millions more for the bondsmen in the Indian Archipelago.

ONE NIGHT lately the Fraserburgh fishermen were lying on their nets, a large shark made a spring at a man's foot placed on the ganwale of the boat. Several sharks have been captured on the coast of Scotland.

NEW COLOURS were presented by Lady Rayleigh, on behalf of the Ladies of Essex, to the West Essex Militia, at Chelmsford, on Saturday.

IT IS EXPECTED THE COURT will return from Balmoral about the 15th of October. The weather continues highly favourable for deer-stalking, but the Prince Consort has been less successful in the forest this year than in former seasons.

AN OFFER OF KNIGHTHOOD is likely to be made to Mr. J. T. Smith, Mayor of Melbourne, who is the bearer to this country of Australia's congratulations to the Queen on the marriage of her eldest daughter.

EXTENSIVE IMPROVEMENTS have been recently effected in the neighbourhood of Sharon, in Donegal. From the Inch the sea has been driven out, and a plain of the richest land now spreads itself over the former bed of the waters. Upwards of 6,000 acres have thus been reclaimed.

MR. JOHN ORELL LEVER has bought the clipper-ship James Baines, some time since inspected by her Majesty, and subsequently partially destroyed by fire, for the purpose of being used as a coal hulk for the Galway Company at Galway.

THE EARLY ALTAR-PIECE, ascribed to Mabuse, containing portraits of a Scottish King and Queen, which her Majesty graciously directed to be removed from Hampton Court to Holyrood, has been placed in the picture-gallery of that palace.

THOMAS BRIDGES, Esq., a fellow of the Linnean Society, and corresponding member of the Zoological Society of London, has settled in Vancouver Island, and from time to time will investigate its botanical history and zoological productions.

THE "GAZETTE" announces that passports granted by her Majesty's Government to British subjects proceeding via Belgium, will not require to be countersigned by any Belgian diplomatic or consular agent in this country.

A FRENCH CONSUL is to be appointed to IRKUTSK, in Siberia, of which town the commerce is increasing rapidly. Merchants of Marseilles are preparing Chinese adventures.

THE GERMAN SCIENTIFIC CONGRESS is now holding its thirty-seventh session at Carlsruhe. There are 1,100 German, Russian, and Swedish members present; Italy is represented by four, and France by twelve.

DAVID WILLIAMS WIRE, Esq., alderman and inn-holder, is to succeed Sir Richard Carden as Lord Mayor of London.

MR. HIND says that the comet will arrive at its least distance from the earth about midnight on the 10th of October, when we shall be separated from it by rather over 51,000,000 miles. Its maximum brilliancy will be attained the day previous, when the intensity of light will be twice as strong as at the present time.

Literature.

Dives and Lazarus; or, the Adventures of an Obscure Medical Man in a Low Neighbourhood. London: Judd & Glass.

THE author of this pathetic and truthful little book is evidently a medical man of much experience in his own profession and among the poor. His experience has taught him that there is an amount of suffering among the London poor, of which the public generally have no conception; and that they support their privations and afflictions with a heroism which is equally unknown to us. The bills of mortality, the returns of the poor-law authorities, and statistical documents, tell, to those who know how to read them, what misery exists in the heart of the richest metropolis in the world; but figures are not eloquent, and the mere statement that so many persons, in an east-end parish, have died of starvation in the course of the year, impresses us very differently from a detailed narrative of the sufferings of any one starving family. To a person, however, who has read these "Adventures of an Obscure Medical Man in a Low Neighbourhood," such figures have a new significance. The author takes us into the hovels of the sick poor, shows us under what conditions they live, and from what causes they die. From house to house, in many districts, it is the same sad story. Asmodeus might unroof whole streets, and in every room he would find either a pauper, or a very poor person just one grade above pauperism, and as such taxed for the actual pauper's relief. The effect of unequal rating for the relief of the poor, is to make the owners of land pull down all the small, mean tenements that happen to be situated on their estate, and to replace them by fine large houses, far above the means of all persons who are likely ever to "come upon the parish." Thus, the burden of pauperism is thrust from one district to another, and always from poorer to poorer, until at length a number of dock labourers, instead of residing near the scene of their fatiguing and ill-paid labours, are absolutely forced to live as far away as Hammer-mith. Every parish tries to get rid of its poor, and not one will erect houses for their accommodation, for to live in the vicinity of poor people is to be taxed for their support. The rich live with the rich, and the poor with the poor. "You poor people must support one another," says Dives, with ironical logic, "and we rich ones will take care of ourselves." In some parishes, where the ejection of the poor has not yet been completed, the strangest contrasts are to be found. In Kensington, for instance, the average duration of life is forty-five years on one side of the way, and eighteen on the other. On one side lives Dives, on the other Lazarus. But as Dives does not like being taxed to supply Lazarus with crumbs, Lazarus will some day or other be kicked out, and Jennings' Buildings, where he at present resides, will be pulled down, and replaced by houses into which no Lazarus will ever dream of penetrating. There can be no doubt but that the misery of the London poor—inevitable to some extent—is needlessly and shamefully increased by the unequal rating system. Most persons who have written on the subject have laid especial stress on the injustice of the system as regards the rate-payers, but the author of "Dives and Lazarus" calls particular attention to the cruel effects upon the poor themselves. Thus, after speaking of the immense wealth of St. Katherine's Docks and the district surrounding them, he tells us that the number of men employed merely in loading and unloading the vessels, without counting the sailors, is not less than three thousand, most of whom are married and have families. Altogether about ten thousand souls are dependent upon this dock for their daily bread; and in a season of commercial distress, or during a hard frost, they are all deprived of the means of living. These poor creatures do not, on an average, possess in goods and money more than enough for three days' subsistence, and it might naturally be concluded that their employers, who profit so largely by their labours, would be called upon to contribute to their relief, especially as these docks are within the Whitechapel Union. Such, however, is not the case. The proprietors of the docks do not reside in the district, but they own the whole parish of St. Katherine, and are consequently exempted from relieving any of the other poor in the union. To keep up the value of their shares, they allow no working men to reside on their property, and consequently their contribution to the relief of the misery they create is merely a trifle in proportion to their wealth. The other employers, the merchants and ship-owners, have their counting-houses in the adjoining city parish, where no poor can find a dwelling; and as they are not obliged to contribute to the support of these destitute labourers, treat the misery they often create with the most perfect indifference. The principal portion of the money given in relief is paid by the poor themselves. A large portion of the population of this union, are Spitalfields weavers; and they assist, to a considerable extent, in relieving the dock labourers. These latter, if in work themselves, assist the weavers in the hour of their distress; while the merchant, manufacturer, and consumer are all absolved, by our iniquitous poor-laws, from the consequences of their avarice and reckless over-trading. Nothing is more common in this district than for a distress to be levied upon the goods in a house while a portion of its inmates are receiving parochial relief.

The plan of "Dives and Lazarus" may be told in a few words. The "obscure medical man" is a military surgeon, who quarrels, or rather is quarrelled with by the colonel of his regiment, and quits the service. Then, after a variety of adventures, narrated in the introductory chapter, he returns to England, and, calling upon an old fellow-student, named Morton, finds that he is acting as medical officer "in a low neighbourhood," as to the locality of which we can only say that it is on the south side of the water. Suddenly Morton falls ill, and the "obscure medical man" offers to take his place for eight or ten days, during which period he meets with the adventures now recorded. The book, then, is a sort of a Decameron of poverty, suffering, and heroism in low life. The account of each visit is a tale, or a portion of a tale; and though some of them exhibit an amount of skill on the part of the narrator which suggests not relation merely, but invention—there is such a life-like air about all of them that we feel sure they are transcripts of actual occurrences. But, after all, what does it matter whether the scenes in "Dives and Lazarus" be real or fictitious, when it is quite certain that they are possible, and that similar scenes occur every day? The great merit of the author is, that he presents them to us truthfully and vividly.

It must not be supposed that this "Dives and Lazarus" is all sadness and darkness from beginning to end. Here and there the pages are brightened by the introduction of a character who shines forth as an example, not perhaps of beauty, but of goodness and generosity. Take, for instance, this portrait of a stage fairy, who is more fairy-like off the stage than on, from her great kindness:—

"This was the fairy. Her autobiography was as short as her person. Like other fairies, nobody knew where she came from. Her first appearance in history was as a fairy in a pantomime. She performed the part for several years; and as she was remarkably short for her age, she continued waving the Dutch metal wand much longer than is usual on the stage. After that, for a short time, she performed the lost young gentleman in genteel Victoria comedy; but increasing both in fat and years, she was obliged to leave the profession. From her frequent performance of the character, she had acquired the name of the fairy. What her real name might have been, nobody seemed to know. Retired into private life, she continued to perform the character to her theatrical friends. When any one wanted assistance, the Fairy was first thought of. Whenever a stage princess was born, she attended as the fairy, and not only promised the infant innumerable blessings, but was of the greatest use to the mother. At the few marriages that took place, she was present, and again not only blessed the young couple, but made herself useful at the dinner by washing the plates for the second course in a corner of the room. In cases of sickness, no fairy ever equalled her; and at the death-bed, if she quitted the character of fairy, it was to appear in another still more beautiful. How she lived, no one knew. She was never paid by any one, and the crumbs that fell from the poor players' tables were not such as to account for her accumulated fat."

One of the greatest curses of poverty is the temptation offered to poor mothers to forsake their own children, in order to become wet-nurses to the children of the rich. They are not tempted, however—we should rather say that they are compelled to this sacrifice. "As an example of the system," says the author of "Dives and Lazarus," "let us take that

poor infant and its mother; she is well fed, well clothed, and tolerably well paid, according to the present market price for infant life; her husband is dying here in London from consumption; everything the poor creature earns is sent up; a portion assists the husband, and the remainder goes towards the maintenance of the child. The sum paid is utterly insufficient to compensate any one for the amount of labour and attention a child brought up by hand requires, without taking into consideration the cost of food and clothing. The child gradually languishes and dies. Let us contrast the position of the two infants. One ruddy, healthy, and lively, increases in strength and beauty daily; the other sickly and uncared for, is sinking rapidly. . . . I do not know what may be the price of an infant at the breast in the slave states of America; but, if your own wife be sickly, or, what as frequently happens, lazy, you may buy, in London, the life of another woman's child to feed your own, for from sixty to eighty dollars American currency, and have a large majority of Exeter Hall to approve of the transaction."

We must now refer those of our readers who wish to hear more about the London Lazarus to the "Obscure Medical Man's" work. They will find that it is conceived in a spirit of humanity, and executed with great literary skill.

Friends at their own Fireside; or, Pictures of the Private Life of the people called Quakers. By Mrs. ELLIS. 2 vols., 12mo. London: Bentley.

WHEN we took up this book, we expected to find great pictures of Quaker interiors, after the manner of the Dutch painters. And there are not a few of these pictures scattered over the pages of the work. But, contrary to our expectation, there is also an interesting and exciting story. In truth, the work is a novel, full of stirring incidents, accidents and love-scenes, as other novels are. All this is supplementary to our anticipations. The title of the book gives no promise of anything of the sort; for, who could expect to find anything like passion and poetry in "Friends at their own Fireside?" "The people called Quakers" are, of course, familiar to us, at least the exterior of the people is—we meet them in the street and the market; we hear of them on "Change." Occasionally we see them on the road, seated in all their starched primness, in capacious hooded chaises, drawn by strong, well-appointed cattle. And sometimes in a country town we have happened to come across one of their religious gatherings. But our idea of the Quakers was, that, though in former days they were characterised by a good deal of fervour and vigorous religious zeal and philanthropy, they had come to be in these modern times a cold, passionless, emotionless people, who did a good deal of good no doubt, but in so formal and mechanical a manner, that they appeared to do it from the force of tradition and habit, rather than from any genuine human impulse; and that lately, if they had any force of character, it was mainly devoted to money making. That Quakers married and gave in marriage, we of course knew; but we have never imagined a Quaker wooing. As Sydney Smith said of a bishop, we could only conceive of a Quaker who wished to marry, appointing a meeting with his lady-love "in the vestry." We never heard a Quaker laugh, excepting John Bright, whom we have been led to believe is but half a Quaker—nor have we ever seen a Quaker weep or heard one sing; nor did we dream of them generally as being fond of poetry; for, although we knew that Bernard Barton, the poet, was a Quaker, and that Whiffles, the Quaker, translated Tasso, we had been led to imagine that these were exceptions hardly approved of by "the Friends." The perusal of this book has, however, dispelled all these illusions, and has shown us that, behind all the prim formalities of Quakerism, and beneath the quaint-cut coats of the men, and the plain and starched attire of the women, human tastes and passions are at work, as they are in other people. They woo in the same language; they love with the same intensity; they laugh when they are merry; they weep when they are grieved; and, not infrequently, they explode into passionate expressions when they are angry; and, more than that, they pine away under the pangs of unrequited love, like worldly people. At least, so says Mrs. Ellis: and she ought to know—for she herself was a Quakeress once. In short, the Quakers and Quakeresses, after all, are men and women "of like passions with ourselves"—just such; neither more nor less. And the difference between the world and them, is a difference mainly in externals. For instance, in the beginning of the work we are introduced to a picture of the interior of a Quaker's cottage, where three single sisters dwell; and seldom have we seen anything more grand and lovely than this interior which Mrs. Ellis draws. And the impression at first produced upon the mind of the reader is that three maiden ladies live here almost as secluded as nuns, or if any love transactions are on the tapis they are managed diplomatically through a third party—as it is said such matters are managed amongst the Moravians; but it is not so. For on a certain seventh day, in the afternoon, we read, "These is evidently more preparation going on than usual. At last, the quick steady trot of a horse is heard in the distance, for the window has been placed ajar for some time past, but now is hastily closed. Rachel's ever-blooming face flushed up a little more than usual; she wished it would not do so, but it would in spite of the many times she has been upstairs to bathe it with cold water, and to smooth the locks of hair, which, in spite of her endeavours, will persist in curling round her temples, sometimes flying back in stray tendrils across the stiff border of her cap." At length a lover—"a fancy man, dressed in a suit of brown"—arrives, and then every thing goes on just as it does amongst us worldly people. There are kind greetings for all, but while the young man in brown spoke to all the sisters "in the same pleased manner, he managed to keep hold of the hand of Rachel until he walked up to the fire-place, and (continues the author) we are not sure that it was relinquished there." And after tea the two sisters, "to whom the visit did not specially appertain," went upstairs to "crimp their fast-day caps;" and when Susannah Law, a little niece of theirs, ran in with a message for Rachel about the arrangement for going to meeting to-morrow, and wished to deliver the message herself, they strictly forbade her going into the parlour. Very proper, of course—exceedingly proper; but, somehow, we had not fancied it amongst Quakers.

Nor should we have dreamed of any little secret chambers like that described as follows, in the home of these prim, matter-of-fact young ladies, who make such a deal of truthfulness, that they will not say "you" to a single person, because it is plural:—

"The three sisters looked up their Shakespeare in a glass-case lined with green silk, along with many other books, which enriched, if they could not be said to adorn, a very pretty library, opening by a bow window into a perfect bower of roses and sweet-briar. No servant ever saw them opening the glass-case, excepting for the purposes of dusting, and that they always did themselves; nor, indeed, were they very free to admit visitors into this room."

We did not know that Quaker ladies read Shakespeare, &c. &c., expecting it might be "a family edition;" but we should certainly never dream that they read anything on the "sly"—as we say. Nor were we prepared to learn that female "Friends" are voracious novel readers, as we are told they are in this book.

But once more, let our readers ponder the following:—

"Of Susannah Law it might indeed be said that she scarcely ever occasioned her parents a minute's uneasiness. To all appearance the right and correct way was always more attractive to her than the wrong; at all events, no other tendency was betrayed by her exceedingly placid countenance, and orderly, gentle manners. Suppose a fair, pale-complexioned young woman, rather above middle size, with large white hands, and, like her mother, beautiful arms, if she would but permit them to be seen. Perhaps, it was the costume to which Susannah strictly adhered, and the exceedingly little adornment about her head, that made her face look large and somewhat bare. The plain stiff muslin cap with closely crimped borders, which she always wore, did very little towards hiding her temples, nor was it much helped out by a thin fringe of soft light hair cut too closely to admit of anything approaching to a curl, and only just separated in the middle like that of a little child. Susannah's cap might have been made of iron, it was so unalterable in form, in the flutings of its crown, and the little frill into which it was gathered at the back of the head."

And then she is further described as having regular features—a mouth finely moulded, blue eyes which she had a habit of shrouding

under heavy white eyelids, and sitting with her hands folded, her eyes looking down, like a marble statue. Now here to all appearance is a being cold, passionless, and uninteresting; but it is all mere seeming, readers, for beneath this placid exterior a volcano of passion lies hid. This lady, we find, loved, and loved intensely, and when she was deceived and betrayed, could come out of her fortress of decorum and show herself all the woman. Her lover was Paul Rutherford, the son of a Quaker, who, however, proved a villain; for whilst he was wooing Susannah, he was living with another whom he had deceived by a false marriage. In process of time Susannah heard of this, and how did she act? Did she still retain her statue-like appearance, seated there as we have seen her, with her eyes covered by their heavy lids, and her white hands folded? No! she rushed to London—discovered her faithless lover in a questionable house, just as he was about to forsake his reputed wife and child and go abroad. And here is the scene, materially abridged, which occurred.

"I have come," Susannah said, in her own simple manner, "to ask a few questions, to which I expect and demand the answer of truth."

"Paul did not like this commencement. From the first he had felt awed by the calm dignity which was far more difficult for him to cope with than would have been the most bitter and violent abuse."

"I have come to ask thee about that woman," continued Susannah, "whether she is thy wife or not?"

"Paul started. His countenance instantly fell, and for a moment thrown off his guard, he looked the picture of abject depravity and base deception. And if not by words, at least by his looks, betrayed himself. Susannah followed up the blow."

"And the child," she said, "is that provided for?"

This was a second stroke under which the guilty man betrayed himself again. He had nothing to say, but whined about temptation, &c. &c.—

"Susannah raised her hand to indicate that she would hear no more. But her mission was not all fulfilled. Dreadful as it was to remain another moment in this vile place, for she both saw and felt that it was a vile place, she must not, dared not go without a word of remonstrance, &c. So with a voice like one speaking from the grave, Susannah uttered a few simple but earnest denunciations against the guilty course of life which Paul had long been leading; and then, with uplifted hands, and with a look almost like that of inspired prophecy, she went on to describe the last, but irrevocable condition of such a course if not repented of, and the awful death by which an eternal seal would be set upon horrors not to be described."

"Accidents will happen," as we have often heard, "in the best regulated families," and we had thought that the Quaker families were at least exempt from such accidents as these—and we should certainly have no more expected that a quiet statuesque Quakeress could come out thus melodramatically than Leporello expected the statue would really come to supper with his master when he invited him. In conclusion, however, let it not be supposed that mere "accidents," or such characters as Paul Rutherford, are represented by Mrs. Ellis as common amongst the Quakers. These are the exceptions—few and far between—and on the whole these "pictures of the private life of the people called Quakers," though they have not a little surprised us, have certainly not lowered the seat in our estimation. On the contrary, we feel that we like them better now we have discovered that in them, after 200 years of rigid repression and discipline, that nature, which makes the whole world kin, is still triumphant.

Two Millions. By WILLIAM ALLEN BUTLER.
London: Sampson Low, Son, and Co.

THIS little poem, by the author of "Nothing to Wear," is dedicated to the Phi-Beta-Kappa Society, and was written at the request of that honourable and doubtless learned association. It is, we regret to say, very inferior to the crinoline epic—we call it the crinoline epic, because we take it for granted that "Nothing to Wear" was full of allusions to balloon petticoats; but we never read it, and only say that the work before us is inferior to the production in question, because the latter is generally spoken of as a very clever satire, whereas "Two Millions" is only clever as regards the execution. Mr. Butler, brilliant, sensitive, and, even truly poetical as he sometimes is, is after all only a satirist of the decadence. He is wanting neither in happy jests, nor in cutting allusions, nor in touching pictures to contrast with his delineations of egotism and avarice, but he begins without a suitable subject. He is satirical, and humorous, and pathetic, "without sufficient cause," as Mr. Holmes says. Everybody, except the race of bankers (and even they must be aware of it by this time)—knows that "Crescit amor nummi," &c., and that Harpagus is not a very amiable, or even a very reasonable character. Here in this century of speculation, competition, wealth and beggary, we have a writer, and a writer of great ability also, who comes forward to tell us, in his own ingenious way, that money does not confer happiness, that self-made men are usually proud, and that misers are not generous. After this, we may expect a work on the death of Queen Anne for Englishmen, or on the existence of a statue of Henri Quatre on the Pont Neuf for Frenchmen. Such platitudinarian views should be expressed, not in brilliant verse, but in the duldest of prose, and we doubt whether they need be expressed at all, unless the writer has some such story as that of Shylock, or of the Avare, or of Mercade to illustrate them by. However, "Two Millions" contains some excellent lines. Let us tell our readers what the story is about.

Firkin, a millionaire, or rather a *deux-fois millionnaire* (it is he who has the two millions), has adopted a young lady as his daughter. Instead of waiting to be married respectably to a rich bank-director, the adopted daughter runs off with a poor man of genius (all these poor men are men of genius, and, what is worse, all these men of genius are poor). Soon afterwards, the "Gold-Swamp Company" is started, in which Firkin takes some shares, because he is a prosaist and a mean scoundrel, while the man of genius does the same thing, because he is a poet, and full of fine imagination. Of course, the prosaist, like a rascal, sells out at the proper moment; but the poet holds on until he is ruined, when, having nothing else to do, he dies. The wife can get no assistance from the hard-hearted Firkin, and her child dies.

"A broken toy, a bunch of withered flowers,
In his thin hands were clasped his breast above,
The last frail links that to this world of ours
Had bound the sufferer, save a mother's love."

The mother turns "with prophetic fury" to Firkin, who has met her by accident, and foretells the bi-millionaire's death. A few lines further on, Firkin is indeed dead. He has fallen suddenly to the earth—*foudroyé*, as the French say—and is found lying helpless on his back, with the fragments of a will in his hand. Then the question arises: did he tear the will with intent to destroy it, or did he simply tear it involuntarily in the convulsions of death? Lawyers are engaged on all sides, pleadings are heard, judges are in a state of indecision, and no one can tell what will become of the Firkin property, and how the great Firkin will-case will be decided; when suddenly the owner of the two millions comes to life. He has been resuscitated by his adopted daughter, who, hearing of his demise, has attributed it to the vehemence of her denunciations, and has rushed to the supposed corpse to express remorse, and offer up to the spirit of the departed villain a species of atonement. Firkin, coming to life again, takes a lesson from what has befallen him, becomes virtuous, and gives away his "Two millions" in charity through the medium of his adopted, and rejected, and re-adopted child.

The fable then is not good, but we must add that many of the details are admirable. The portrait of Firkin, for instance, is excellent, especially the following traits:—

"His hard, square features, like an iron safe,
Locked in his thoughts; no chance unnoted waif
Of fugitive feeling, unawares betrayed
The inner man, or mental stock-in-trade."

And again—

"The portly figure, with its solvent air,
Proclaimed to all the world the millionaire,
He a purse and person, both at fullest length,
And even the higher law which he obeyed
With all his heart, and soul, and mind, and strength,
To love his Maker, for he was self-made."

Elsewhere, we read of the same individual in connection with his ancestors—or want of them—

"Now Firkin could not bear to be in debt
To anybody, even for existence;
And on the social ladder where he set
His foot, disclaimed an ancestor's assistance."

Firkin had purchased a coat of arms, and had adopted as his crest the "Almighty Dollar." The "Almighty dollar" was on every fork and spoon, and the owner was delighted.

"When he beheld its lines, so bright and wavy,
Gleam in the soup, and glimmer through the gravy."

Firkin went to church because he "liked to keep on speaking terms with heaven," but he was equally free from superstition and from faith. Religion had never given him a dollar, nor had it ever taken one from him (as the published subscriptions to the public charities sufficiently showed). Here, in fact, is the summing up of his creed—

"He had been young, and now was old," he said,
"But never had he seen the self-made man
Forsaken, nor his children begging bread,
Provided they pursued the father's plan,
All through their lives, as he himself had done,
And kept a sharp look-out for number one."

We have now quoted enough to show that "Two Millions," whatever may be its defects, is, at all events, well written and amusing.

THE BALLOT.—The Ballot Society has issued the text of a bill which they wish to lay before the Legislature, and which will be found to be an answer to those who imagine that secret voting is impossible. After the model of the plan adopted in the Victoria colony, the voter would have to strike out from the Ballot paper placed in his hands the names of the candidates for whom he does not vote. The paper thus marked by him is to be folded and dropped into the Ballot-box, and on no account is he to take it out of the Ballot room where he votes. Should he be unable to write or read, it is proposed that the duty of erasure should be performed by deputy under rigid arrangements as to secrecy.

THE REV. C. H. SPURGEON'S NEW TABERNACLE.—On Sunday last Mr. Spurgeon informed his congregation at the Surrey Music Hall that he had signed an agreement for a freehold site for his tabernacle opposite the Elephant and Castle, Southwark. £3,000 is the sum to be paid for the land. The edifice will necessarily cost many thousands to erect; and, although the amount left in hand, with the numerous liberal promises of donations, will yield a good sum, still the congregation was urged to continue its efforts in aid of the fund.

THE PRINCE OF WALES' FIRST STAG.—The Prince of Wales killed a fine stag in the forest of Balmoral last week. The deer was brought home in the evening, when the Queen surveyed it, congratulating the Prince on the success of his rifle. A party of eight gillies with torches danced a reel in honour of the occasion in the presence of the Royal household, after which the health of the Prince was toasted by the company.

POACHERS DEFENDED BY WOMEN.—On Saturday last the Crosshill policeman, accompanied by the keepers of Sir Edward Hunter Blair and a party of labourers, consisting of about eleven men, armed with a warrant, proceeded to arrest two poachers, named Ferguson and M'Lelland, belonging to Crosshill. They were at work in a harvest-field on the farm of Three-tombs, and, on the party appearing, one of the men, seizing a hook, threatened to assault the first man who offered to come near. The whole band of reapers, mostly women, and numbering nearly thirty, also came to the rescue, and with defiant language declared that they would oppose any attempt at a capture. After some altercation, the party had to retire without effecting their object, and were saluted by their Amazonian antagonists with derisive cheers and every epithet which the vocabulary of slang can so liberally supply.

INSOLENCE AND OVERCHARGE.—At the London Mansion House, on Friday, T. D. Souter, cab proprietor and driver, was charged as follows:—Mr. Halsewell, a county magistrate, said he hired defendant on the 11th inst., and discharged him at London Bridge terminus. He paid him 3s., the fare was only 2s. 6d. Witness went down the steps, and defendant said his fare was 5s. Witness replied that it was only 2s. 6d. The defendant then stood in witness's way, and said witness should not pass unless he paid, although witness told him that he was going to Ostend, and should lose the boat if delayed. Defendant then put himself in a fighting attitude, and used abusive language. Defendant—I say, mind what you say. I didn't do no such thing. Complainant—He followed me to the boat, and said he would take my luggage, and give me in charge to a policeman if I did not pay 5s. I then called a policeman, and I got into the boat. The defendant, in a vehement manner, denied the charge. The Lord Mayor: The cabman evidently calculated on the chance of complainant's departure for Ostend. This kind of conduct occurs more frequently at London Bridge than elsewhere, as cabmen suppose that those who have hired them are going to a distance by rail or boat. I fine him 40s., or fourteen days' imprisonment.

NEW BASIN AT THE LONDON DOCKS.

THE ships that now enter the port of London have increased so much in number and size, that the London Dock Company has long felt the inconvenience of the old and small entrances to their basins. To remedy this the company have lately, at great cost, constructed a new entrance from the river Thames, enlarged the present Shadwell basin, and erected a new connecting lock to the present eastern dock. The two locks are of the same size, and similar in construction. They are 350 feet long between the outer gates, and 60 feet wide, and have 28 feet of water on the sills. They are fitted with an intermediate pair of gates, so as to enable the lock to be worked for three sizes of vessels, thus saving a waste of water in locking.

The present basin is little more than one acre in area, but with the new basin is above six acres. The new basin is about 800 feet long, by 300 feet broad; it will have 30 feet depth of water. About 600,000 cubic yards of earth have been removed from the excavation of the new basin and locks, all of which had to be carried away in barges—the greater part was landed at Battersea Park, and used in forming the approaches to the new bridge, and for the river terraces, &c. The basin walls are formed of a concrete base, carrying a brick wall; the coping is of Bramley fall stone, as is that of the locks, together with all the invert, sills and square quoins. The lock walls and inverts are of brick; the hollow quoins being of Plymouth limestone and Scotch whinstone; the walls are mostly faced with blue bricks from the neighbourhood of Birmingham.

The Dock Company have also erected a powerful engine to pump water into the new basin, and to compensate the loss by leakage, &c., the water being always kept at the same level in the docks. Large warehouses, for storage, are now being erected on the west quay of the new basin; these warehouses will communicate with the Company's present warehouses by means of tunnels, carried under the public roads, which have been raised for that purpose. The site of these extensive works was covered a short time ago by numbers of narrow streets and lanes—the houses in them being of the most wretched character and most densely populated. Some of the lanes formed *culs-de-sac* and were scarcely safe travelling by day or night. Nearly 400 houses were removed for the new works, fifteen acres of ground being cleared. The Company are now forming two new lines of thoroughfare to compensate for those destroyed; they will be straight wide roads, and cross the two locks by handsome iron swing bridges, constructed on the lattice principle, which combines lightness with strength. These bridges, as well as the lock sluices, capstans, &c., are moved by the patent process of Messrs. Armstrong, of Newcastle, the motive power being the pressure of water; the gates (weighing 70 tons each) are opened by this method in one minute. The Company are now engaged in dredging in the river opposite the new entrance, so as to have water deep enough for the largest vessels to lie afloat at low water.

The works were designed by the late J. M. Rendle, F.R.S., &c. Since his decease, they have been under the charge of his sons, Messrs. M. and G. Rendle. The resident engineer is Mr. A. T. Andrews.

The view given shows the new basin, looking westward; the vessels in the eastern dock being seen over the top of the warehouse now in course of construction. Owing to its proximity to Shadwell Church, the north wall of the basin had to be curved outwards nearly 20 feet. This spoils what otherwise would be a very fine wall. The dam dividing the old and new basin is shown on the left. This dam is now being removed, which done, the basin will be thrown open for trade.



NEW BASIN AT THE LO'DON DO'AS



THE HINDU BOAT AT CUTTACK. DISCOVERY OF THE GUNS AND AMMUNITION.

SIR HUGH ROSE AT CALPEE.

THE illustration on the preceding page represents one of the most striking scenes afforded by the struggle in India. Few operations were more important, indeed, than the capture of Calpee. It was taken by Sir Hugh Rose on the 23rd of May, after he had been twice attacked by the rebels (ineffectually, of course) during his advance. The enemy's garrison offered no resistance, and the city fell into our hands with little or no cost of blood on our side. All the guns, elephants, and ammunition of the enemy were seized. Fifty guns, twenty-four standards, and an immense store of ammunition were found in the fort.

MADEMOISELLE PICCOLOMINI AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

ON Tuesday, Mademoiselle Piccolomini took her second and last farewell of the British public, before starting for New York, where she is anxiously awaited by the *habitués* of the "Academy of Music." The scene of the *adieu* was the Crystal Palace, and so determined were the young lady's admirers to see and hear the last of her, that no less than ten thousand of the respectable class assembled to "assist" at the leave-taking. In speaking of Mademoiselle Piccolomini's last appearance at her Majesty's Theatre, we told our readers of the enthusiasm of the audience, and of the affecting tenderness of the departing one. The emotion on both sides was equally great at the Crystal Palace—that is to say, equally great in proportion to the numbers present, for, speaking absolutely, it was four times greater. The ten thousand spectators and listeners clapped their twenty thousand hands and shouted "Bravo!"

Those who wished their neighbours to think they understood Italian shouted "*brava!*" while Mademoiselle Piccolomini responded to the plaudits with a cordiality and emotion that were really touching, and which, to those who believe in Mademoiselle Piccolomini's talent, must have been profoundly affecting. No one knows how to receive applause so well as the unvoiced little *soprano*, who fulfils so imperfectly an author's intentions, and acts so skilfully to the pit. She acknowledges it in the most charming manner almost before it is offered to her, just as she is always ready to repeat an air in answer to the faintest "encore," or to bow, smile, and retire with looks of equal gratitude if the encore be evidently not insisted on. But really in whatever character she has appeared, Mademoiselle Piccolomini's success has seldom, if ever, been a doubtful one; and as success is the only thing the public believe in (probably from vanity, because each individual member feels that he has contributed something towards it), one triumph leads naturally to another, and the same people who applauded the successful vocalist on the night of her *début*, applaud her a hundred times more vehemently on the eve of her departure. Doubtless, too, the Irish row, of which Mademoiselle Piccolomini's appearance at the Dublin theatre was the pretext, has added materially to that lady's reputation—"La réputation c'est un grand bruit"—and the noise inside and outside the Dublin theatre was something tremendous. The Irish, in their humorous manner, treated the pleasant, good-natured, vivacious, audience-loving Piccolomini, as some goddess of song. Did they not sacrifice a dove to her—a poor innocent dove—who was dragged on to the stage by ropes, and whose back was nearly broken by the weight of an unusually ponderous volume of Moore's melodies? Of course there is some connection in the Irish mind between doves, Moore's melodies, and Mademoiselle Piccolomini. The Irish have a talent for connecting all sorts of dissimilar things, voluntarily when they are witty, and involuntarily when they make bulls. But, however that may be, Dublin has added to the Piccolominian reputation; and the Crystal Palace (a city in itself) has (with due allowance for the coldness of the Anglo-Saxon temperament) endorsed, or re-endorsed the opinion of Dublin. In about seven days from the publication of the present number of our journal, Mademoiselle Piccolomini will step from the deck of the *Vanderbilt* steamer on to the quays of New York, she will enter an equipage, which will be in readiness to receive her, and the New Yorkers will behave like a set of horses (that is really the quadruped we mean), in so far that they will harness themselves to her carriage and drag her to her hotel. Of these events we might have heard in eight days or even less, but, alas! the Atlantic cable will not work! In the meantime, we sincerely hope that Mademoiselle Piccolomini will meet in New York with even more success than she obtained in London; for it would be mortifying if the *habitués* of an American opera were to discover, what the audience never seem to have found out, or, at all events, never seem to have cared about, at her Majesty's Theatre—namely, that Mademoiselle Piccolomini, with all her proficiency in the art of pleasing, is far from being a great singer.

Of course, at her farewell concert Mademoiselle Piccolomini did not sing alone. She was supported by Signor Giuglini and Signor Aldighieri—almost the best tenor, and almost the worst barytone of the day. Signor Giuglini sang "Spirito Gentil," from "La Favorita," and "Tu m'ami," from "La Zingara" ("Bohemian Girl"), and sang them with all possible taste and feeling. This admirable vocalist, who possesses that rare gift among the tenors of the present day—a voice that is neither uneven nor tremulous—is, it appears, engaged at Madrid, but we shall doubtless have the pleasure of hearing him in London next season. It has been said that Mr. Lumley will not open; that Lord Ward is tired of his speculation, &c.; but whatever Lord Ward may feel inclined to do, we cannot believe that Mr. Lumley would have engaged Titiens and Giuglini for a term of years (which he has certainly done), unless he had intended to avail himself of their services. But for Mr. Lumley, we might never have heard either of those singers, and we should look upon it as a misfortune for the public if her Majesty's Theatre were not to re-open. Managers are born avaricious (though it is customary to call them liberal in newspapers), and if Mr. Lumley were to abandon her Majesty's Theatre, Mr. Gye would lose no time in cutting down his expenditure at Covent Garden. But our contemporaries are fond of circulating wonderful and incredible stories about musical matters. Thus, in a recently published memoir of Miss Arabella Goddard, we find it stated that her last master was Thalberg, who left England when Miss Goddard was about thirteen years of age, and never afterwards gave her a single lesson! In addition to this, it is well known that Thalberg never played one of those pieces which our great English pianist always executes at her own concerts and at the New Philharmonic. Thus, according to the memoir-writer, Miss Goddard never received a lesson since the age of thirteen; while the influence of Thalberg upon her has been so extraordinary, that, instead of performing his fantasias, she always selects some work by Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Sterndale Bennett, or some other classical composer, of whose music Thalberg never played a note.

OUR READERS may be curious to know the terms of Mr. Sims Reeves' engagement at the National Standard Theatre. Well, then, Mr. Douglass pays him £600 for twelve nights, and £300 additional for another week. Who will now complain that bishops are overpaid?

TRADING IN MORTALITY.—Strange are the expedients adopted to secure gain that the journalist has to report. We, however, were not prepared for a circumstance for the truth of which we may safely vouch. Some years ago the son of a worthy individual of a large town in Kent was interred in one of the grave-yards of the locality, and subsequently the father himself was conveyed to his last resting-place. While re-opening the grave for the parent, the preparer of earthy receptacles came upon the remains of the son, and whether the notion of turning the remnants of mortality to account then occurred to him for the first time we are unable to say; but certain it is, that meeting the sister of the deceased had sometime afterwards, he produced a jawbone which he said belonged to her departed brother, telling her at the same time he could obtain a half-crown for it at a chemist's; but as it was a "relic" of one of her relatives, he didn't mind letting her have it for a shilling! The poor girl caught at the chance of obtaining a memento of one to whom in life she had been attached, and, handing over the required sum, hastened home with it to her friends. These were naturally indignant at so inhuman an act; but at the earnest entreaty of the dealer in dead men's bones, he escaped the exposure which his barbarous conduct merited. We understand, however, that he has since been very properly superseded in the office which he had so greasily abused.

THE FIRE AT GREENWICH.

THE inquiry relative to the origin of the fire which consumed the premises of Mr. Richard Roper, corn chandler, of Greenwich, has been resumed. Several of the witnesses previously examined were recalled, for the purpose of cross-examination, with the following result:—

Mr. George Allwright, appraiser, Greenwich, repeated his evidence as to making out the claim for £183 upon the Kent Fire Insurance Company. "Mr. Roper was greatly excited at the loss of his children, and appeared scarcely in a condition to give a list of the items to make the inventory. I continued to enter the items until the claim far exceeded the amount of the insurance, and I then said that it was useless to put down any more. In reply to my questions as to the value of the stock, he said he was unable to give the exact value. It might be £30, or it might be £100, and I then put down £70. I examined the ruins after the fire, in order to find a gold watch, but was unable to do so. From inspecting the premises, my opinion is, that the fire broke out in the cellar under the stairs."

Mr. Sitgrave, also an appraiser, was employed by the Kent Fire Insurance Company to inspect the ruins after the fire. On examining the claim, several of the items appeared to him to be very large, especially £155 for wearing apparel, 10 guineas for a dinner-service, &c. He could find no traces of wearing apparel in the ruins, but believed he must have found the remains, such as buttons, &c., had such a large stock been on the premises. Owing to the peculiar circumstances of the case, and the loss of the children, he was not disposed to deal harshly with Mr. Roper, but was compelled to cut down the claim of £183 to £192. A claim was made for fourteen sacks of flour, but the lad in the service of Mr. Roper informed him that there was not more than a sack of flour on the premises.

Robert Morris, a lad in the service of Mr. Roper, was then re-examined by Mr. Ingle, and stated that he was sent by his master to Mr. Denham, corn dealer, of Deptford, to request the latter to attend at Mr. Roper's house, on Tuesday, the 14th inst., as a witness to an agreement respecting the letting of the business. He (witness) did not commence removing any article of furniture from his master's house until after he had heard that the business was disposed of.

Mr. James Denham, wholesale corn factor, of Deptford, was next examined, but his evidence merely related to business transactions with Mr. Roper.

Eliza Waterfall, servant to Mr. Roper, after being duly cautioned, was examined relative to the removal of several silk dresses, previous to the fire. She admitted that she saw a large parcel which was packed for removal, and which contained silk dresses. She afterwards, from curiosity, inspected the wardrobe, and found that these dresses were missing. She had removed articles of furniture to Mr. Cowell's house at Deptford daily, during a fortnight previous to the fire.

Mr. John Cowell, of Deptford, Mrs. Roper's father, to whose residence a large quantity of Mr. Roper's furniture was removed, was then examined by the coroner, who remarked that this witness had, on a former occasion, so manifestly contradicted himself, and so evidently kept back the truth, that he (the coroner) should proceed against the witness for perjury if he continued such a course. After this warning, the witness reluctantly admitted that he had taken a parcel containing wearing apparel from Mr. Roper's house, previous to the fire, and had pawned the property at Greenwich. He did not exactly know the description of the property. He gave the ticket and the money to Mrs. Roper.

Mrs. Cook, sister to Mr. Roper, now admitted receiving her brother's writing desk and contents. This desk, which had been sealed by the police authorities, was produced. It had been broken open by Mr. Roper, who had told his sister that he required some of the papers. On this the Coroner remarked that Mr. Roper must take any responsibility as to breaking open the desk.

Miss Merton, a lady residing at Plaistow, said that a few days before the fire she called at Mr. Roper's, and requested him to allow her to take away the children, on account of Mrs. Roper's indisposition; the offer was refused.

Mr. James Seaward, a printer, of Greenwich, declared that a few days previous to the fire he was informed by Mr. Roper that he had disposed of his business to a man who had paid him a deposit of two sovereigns. (This man has not yet been found.)

Two pawnbrokers, of Greenwich, produced a number of articles of female wearing apparel pawned by the witness Cowell a few days previous to the fire, the tickets having been made out in the names of Buchan and Brown.

The inquiry was adjourned.

MURDER AMONG FRIENDS.

THREE bad cases of murder, or suspected murder, in the family were brought before the metropolitan magistrates this week. In one case, Anna Maria Hill, aged sixty-five, was killed by a blow on the head delivered by William Hill, her son. This at any rate was the evidence of a Mr. Gee, of Lamb Street, Southwark, who said, that on Saturday evening, he was looking out of his window and saw two women quarrelling in the street, and a man who seemed to be trying to part them. The deceased, who was one of the women, made a blow at the other, when the man struck the deceased on the head, and she fell down backwards. The deceased was then raised up and taken home, and though about a quarter of an hour afterwards she was seen standing against her own door, next morning she was dead. It also appeared from the evidence that both mother and son were intoxicated at the time. A surgeon who made a post-mortem examination attributed death to extravasation of blood arising from external violence. Several of the jurors remarked that the deceased was lost sight of from half-past seven to half-past eight, and during that time, as she went out, she might have met with further violence in addition to that already sworn to.

The inquiry was adjourned. The other case was heard at the Westminster Police-court, where John Owen, an elderly man, described as a boot and shoemaker, was charged with attempting to murder his daughter by administering to her oxalic acid.

Maria Scott said—I live at Windsor Place, Westminster. Prisoner and his daughter live in the same house in the room over mine. He is a widower. At 12 o'clock last night I was in bed when I heard them quarrelling, and using very bad language. He said, "Suke, here is some poison, I shall take it myself." She said something about his not being game enough to take it. He then said, "Well, it is poison, and I would sooner see you dead than about as you are now," and with that the daughter took it. I heard her take it, because she strangled and made a noise in her throat. Then he was frightened, and went out and fetched a doctor and a policeman. When he came back he cried out, "Suke," and shook her.

George Scott, husband of this witness, corroborated her evidence. He heard Owen say, "This is deadly poison; I'll take it, and that will put an end to it." I afterwards heard her say, "Here's luck—I'll take it!"

Now came a witness with a flat contradiction in his mouth. William Robins said—I live in the next room. I was in their room last night. There was not a word said by the prisoner about his being poison. It was oxalic acid. There was not a word said about his taking it himself. She went to the mantelpiece, took it, and frothed at the mouth. I swear nothing had been said about its being poison. (Other witnesses declared that Robins was not sober.)

Mr. French, surgeon, said—He found the daughter insensible on the floor. He administered restoratives, and then took her to the hospital. She said her father had handed a white pot to her with poison in it, which she took. She made that statement, when she had partially recovered, at the hospital. The prisoner was remanded.

A man named Bandy, who was apprehended last week for throwing the woman with whom he lived out of a window, was examined before the Westminster police magistrate, on Monday, on the more serious charge of murder, the poor creature having died of the injuries which she sustained by the fall. He was committed for trial both by the magistrate and the verdict of the coroner's inquest. The chief evidence against Bandy was a statement made by the woman while in Westminster Hospital. She said—"I think I was pushed out of the window by some one who is now in trouble about it. I think I got on the bed myself (the bed was close to the window), and he pushed me out. He threatened me in the room, and said he would be the death of me; he hit me once or twice on the head with the poker that night just before he threw me out of window. It was Isaac Bandy who pushed me out of window. I don't think I shall get over this—he is a bad fellow; he did push me out of window. I opened it to call out."

THE SON OF MR. ELLIS, steward to the Earl of Cardigan, has been fined £1 for trespassing on his father's grounds with a ferret and rabbit nets.

LAW AND CRIME.

"WITCHCRAFT in the nineteenth century" has become a conventional heading of the police reporter, to the narration of proceedings against some vulgar impostor who has endeavoured, by a pretence of magic, to swindle a still more vulgar dupe. It is somewhat curious to remark that the phrase exclusively belongs to the reporter, and yet the censure supposed to be implied therein has during the past week induced the "Times" to publish a leading article in vindication of our modern civilisation. But pray, what is there in this bragging nineteenth century that it should pretend to set itself so far above such a respectably-supported old superstition as that of witchcraft? Have we had in our own day no spirit rappers? It is merely the fashion of the thing which has altered, after all. Human folly, ignorance, and credulity exist still, as they have ever done, and are likely to do so for some few years at least. If the witchcraft proper has had its day, those who believe in it, and are deceived by its counterfeit, are not perhaps more stupid, but more old-fashioned, than their fellow fools. The last case of sorcery especially confirms this view. Andrew Mag, a German baker, residing at the east-end of London, was persuaded by a sham conjuror to buy a share in a Frankfort lottery, upon the express faith of the conjuror's averments that by his spells he could secure a prize upon the ticket. For his incantations, he received from Mag various sums, amounting in all, including £8 for the lottery-ticket, to about £18. The case was brought before Mr. Yardley, who, after hearing the evidence, sentenced the false conjuror to six weeks' hard labour. The Magistrate commented sharply upon the folly of the prosecutor, as if it were really exceptional in its degree, as well as in its circumstances. As for the latter, one need only refer to the advertisement columns of a contemporary, the "Daily Telegraph," in which a rogue and vagabond is periodically allowed to announce his address with a view to entrap the ignorant into seeking his aid as a fortune-teller. As to the mere folly of the affair, it seems to us that this is even exceeded by that of the hundreds who purchase the Frankfort lottery-tickets upon the mere faith of the vendors' announcements, which bear fraud and palpable falsehood upon the very face of them. If any necromantic assurance of success could but be privately thrown into the bargain, who can doubt that the number of the purchasers would be doubled?

A poor mechanic named Lillis was robbed, four years since, of his infant step-daughter. Information was given to the police, with the ordinary lack of result. Now, if the police organisation were carried out, it would be almost an impossibility for a child stolen by vagrants to be long retained, as such persons are in the habit of frequently resting at the workhouses, whither the description of the missing child might readily be made to precede them. However, it was only last week that Lillis received private information that the child was an inmate of the Whitechapel Industrial School at Forest Gate. He found her there, in a dreadful state of filth and disease, with an abscess on her face, broken in two places, and with the fore-finger of her right hand amputated, or rather hacked off, by some unskilful person, whom the child declared to be a woman in the house. Thence Lillis went to the authorities at Whitechapel workhouse to obtain the necessary order for the child's release. He was, to use his own words, "treated like a dog," after the usual Whitechapel manner. He complained to a magistrate, and the result was the appearance at Worship Street police-court, of the child and of Mr. Brushfield, chairman of the Whitechapel Board of Guardians. Mr. Brushfield declared the school referred to, to be a "beautiful establishment." With respect to the missing finger, it was said to have been removed by Mr. Banks, the surgeon to the beautiful establishment. Mr. Banks, although he had been particularly requested to attend before the magistrate, failed to do so, and the magistrate intimated his intention of submitting the whole circumstances to the Poor Law Commissioners.

The disgraceful results of the present competition among the rival omnibus companies, have formed the subject of several cases heard during the last week, at Bow Street, before Mr. Henry. In one of these, a lady was leaving an omnibus of the London General Company, which had been racing with a rival. The omnibus moved on before the lady could alight, and she would thus have been flung among the horses of the following opposition vehicle, had not a violent slam of the door, by the conductor, before she was off the step, sent her in another direction. The solicitor to the company had the cool audacity, before the Magistrate, to impute that the whole charge was the result of a trap set for the Company, by the lady's husband, who, being a reporter of the press, had been occasionally called upon to take notes of proceedings at the meetings of the opposition company. The conductor was fined 20s. Three of the London General Company's drivers, and one in the employ of the Saloon Company, were then charged with loitering. The Saloon omnibus had been so hedged in by the vehicles of the opposition as to be unable to move on. This system, technically termed "nursing," appears recently to have become quite a favourite trick. Mr. Henry, the magistrate, dealt a severe blow to its continuance, by fining the defendants ten shillings each, and announcing his intention, in future cases, of increasing the fine or of suspending the drivers' licences. It was alleged in extenuation that certain times of the day are more prolific than others of omnibus passengers. Each company endeavours, therefore, to make use of these favourable periods. The General Company appears to consider that by the purchase of certain vehicles, formerly starting at these times, it has secured a kind of vested interest therein, to the exclusion of other speculators in public traffic. The General Company is, of course, at full liberty to entertain this idea, or any other more or less absurd, but when it attempts to put such a wild theory into practice, to the annoyance, danger, and obstruction of the public, it is high time for a little enlightenment, however painful.

A curious illustration of the organisation of the criminal classes in low districts was brought before Mr. Yardley, at the Thames Police-court. A poor woman, in great suffering, was brought into court, charged with having attempted suicide by poison. She had, a short time before, been examined as a witness against three persons committed for trial for burglary, and she had been bound over to give evidence against them at the approaching sessions. Meanwhile, a gang of ruffians of the worst class, male and female, friends of the three prisoners, had persecuted her, assaulted her, and repeatedly threatened to have her life, and to wash their hands in her blood. They had even, with the view of putting her out of the way, got up against her a false charge of riot and assault, upon which she had been locked up. They at length reduced her to such a state of frenzied terror, that she sent for a pennyworth of aqua fortis, and swallowed it to end her miserable life. She was, however, preserved by prompt medical aid, and is for the present lodged in the Wapping Workhouse for protection. Her name, which we add for the information of the charitable, is Mary Ann Hennegan.

STATISTICS OF CRIME.—In 1856, 19,437 males and females were committed for trial in England and Wales, 3,713 in Scotland, and 7,099 in Ireland; of these 14,734 were convicted in England, 2,723 in Scotland, and 4,024 in Ireland. 14,734 persons were sentenced at the several criminal courts in England and Wales in 1856, 2,721 were sentenced in Scotland, and 4,024 in Ireland. 19 executions appear to have taken place in the whole of the United Kingdom in the year 1856. 10,765 males and 641 females were incarcerated as debtors under civil process in the same year, a large increase upon the year 1854, when only 9,677 persons of both sexes were imprisoned for debt. Of 113,736 male and female culprits committed in 1856, 33,400 under twelve years of age, 36,859 between twelve and twenty-one, 27,332 between twenty-one and thirty, 37,835 between thirty and sixty, 2,732 of sixty and upwards. 33.1 per cent. of these were utterly illiterate, 53.8 per cent. could read or read and write imperfectly, 5.4 could read and write well, and 0.3 were of superior instruction. The average cost of each prisoner in England and Wales (exclusive of convicts and military prisoners) was £29 1s. 2d.

MR. ALDERMAN SALOMONS is a candidate for the representation of Greenwich. He addressed the public in that borough on Monday, in a speech of the most liberal character.

ALDERMAN HALE and MR. CONDER, deputy for the Dowgate Ward, were on Tuesday sworn into office as sheriffs of London and Middlesex.

Published by him at 148, Fleet Street, in the Parish and City
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